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# PLAN FUNERAL OF GANGSTER DAVID FALZONE

Funeral arrangements for David Falzone, 47, a convicted hijacker and Chicago gangster, were being arranged yesterday.

Falzone, who lived at 2921 Pine Grove av., suffered a fatal heart attack Saturday night in the Antipasto restaurant, 51 E.



Falzone

Oak st. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Chicago Wesley Memorial hospital.

Police said Falzone complained of pains and collapsed while seated with Peter Sperenz 47 of 7728 Argyle st., whom detectives identified as the operator of the restaurant.

## A Daily Visitor, Police Say

Police said Falzone visited the cafe daily, but could not confirm that he was connected with the ownership of the restaurant.

Falzone was known as a syndicate "front man" in Rush street area night clubs. He was one of four defendants convicted on April 24, 1962, in federal District court in Peoria of conspiracy to possess whisky that had been stolen from interstate commerce and possession of stolen whisky.

## On Bond Pending Retrial

His co-defendants were Jimmy [The Monk] Allegretti, 60; Frank [Hot Dog] Liscian-drello, 47; and Louis Darlak, 48. Their convictions were reversed last year by the United States Court of Appeals and all were freed on bond pending a retrial. However, the appeals court has agreed to review the reversal.

Falzone's wife, Christine, 32, told police that her husband had been under treatment for a heart ailment for the last two years. The body was taken to the chapel at 409 North av. Services will be held at 9:30 a. m. tomorrow.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
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Editor:

Title: W.D. MAXWELL

DAVID FALZONE

Character:

or 165-884

Classification:

Submitting Office: CHICAGO

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 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

## Bribe Trial Witness Tells Acquittal Fee

BY SANDY SMITH

A former juror admitted in federal District court yesterday that he pocketed a \$250 bribe in a jury "fix" engineered by "one of the big boys."

Robert Saporito, 30, blandly described the \$250 as his "fee" for holding out for acquittal and deadlocking the jury in the 1959 whisky hijacking case against Gerald Covelli, 39, a crime syndicate hoodlum.

Saporito testified as the government completed its evidence at the trial of two syndicate gangsters and a lawyer accused of conspiracy to bribe Saporito.

### Defendants Are Listed

The defendants are Joseph [Joey Caesar] DiVarco, 51, a north side gambling boss; Charles [Chuck] Hudson, 46, a vice racketeer; and Atty. Richard E. Gorman, 49, who defended Covelli in the hijacking case.

Saporito, an artist, said the bribe was delivered to him in January, 1959, by his brother, Michael, 33, a Chicago policeman.

Michael Saporito vanished in 1960 during an investigation of the jury-tampering. He never has been found. His family fears that he was murdered.

The missing policeman, according to Robert Saporito's testimony, "emphasized" that the bribery scheme was conceived by "one of the big boys."

Q. [By Prosecutor William O. Bittman]. — Did your brother say who the "big boys" were? A. [By Saporito]. — No, he didn't.

Cross examining the witness, George F. Callaghan, defense attorney, asked: "Didn't you know that Covelli was a big boy?"

"Yes, I did," Saporito replied.

were named by Covelli as his co-conspirators.

Defense attorneys, attacking the testimony of Covelli and other government witnesses, have endeavored to show that Covelli arranged the payoff to the juror without any help from the defendants.

Covelli's former wife, Jeanie, 32, of 1718 Winona st., testified with apparent reluctance—as a "court's witness." She was called by the court, Judge Will explained, so that both the prosecution and the defense might cross examine her and neither would be "bound" by her testimony.

### Denial of Conspiracy

She proceeded to corroborate, and then deny, parts of Covelli's story of the alleged conspiracy.

She testified that she had seen a list of names, scrawled on yellow paper, that Covelli brought home during his trial.

Covelli said that he received the list from Gorman, who told him to deliver it to DiVarco. On the list, according to Covelli, the name of Robert Saporito was "marked."

But Mrs. Covelli testified that she did not "honestly recall" any "marks" on the list. She also disputed her former husband's statement that DiVarco was his buddy. Covelli saw DiVarco only "rarely," she said.

### More of a Business Man

"I'll tell you why," she said. "Mr. DiVarco is more of a business man. My husband was —how can I put it?—he wasn't substantial; he was jumping here and there."

Mrs. Covelli went on to confirm a point the defense has sought to establish thruout the two-week trial—that Gorman advised Covelli to plead guilty in the hijacking case. Gorman's lawyer, A. Bradley Eben, asked her if this were true.

"How did you know that?" she answered. "Gerry was very angry that his attorney asked him to plead guilty. He couldn't understand whether Mr. Gorman was with him or against him."

Covelli Names Co-conspirators  
 Covelli pleaded guilty to the jury "fixing" charges and became the government's chief witness in the conspiracy trial before a jury and Judge Hubert L. Will. All defendants

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

9 CHICAGO DAILY  
 TRIBUNE  
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
 DECEMBER 18, 1962  
 Date: 3 STAR SPORTS  
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 Author: W. D. MAXWELL  
 Editor: GERALD COVELLI, AKI  
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Character:

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Classification: 15-12848

Submitting Office: CHICAGO

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# Charge Hood's Guilty Plea Was Publicity Move

## Attorney Denounces U.S. Action in Juror Bribe Case

BY JACK WILLNER

A defense attorney Monday charged that federal prosecutors prompted hoodlum Gerald Covelli to plead guilty to bribing a juror as a publicity move.

Before selection of a jury began in the federal bribery trial, attorney George F. Callaghan told U.S. District Judge Robert L. Will:

"I am not so naive as to be brought Covelli in on the eve of the trial if it wasn't to plead guilty in order to cause newspaper publicity."

Covelli pleaded guilty to the charge last Friday.

On trial are: Joseph (Little Caesar) DiVarco, 51, of 4275 Jarvis, Lincolnwood, North Side gaming boss; Charles (Chuckie) Hudson, 46, of 7105 Milwaukee Av., Niles, ex-convict; and Richard E. Gorman, 47, of 140 N. Mason, former assistant U.S. attorney, who has represented crime syndicate members.

The juror—Robert N. Saporito, 29, of 7301 Armitage, Elmwood Park—received a suspended sentence after he admitted he received a \$250

bribe to hold out for acquittal in a whisky hijacking case in 1958.

Saporito's brother, Michael Jr., a former Chicago policeman who was also indicted, disappeared mysteriously on March 22, 1959. The last trace of Michael, then 31, of 3737 W. Huron, was the discovery of his automobile in a Midway Airport parking lot.

According to Robert Saporito's admission, his brother kept an additional \$250 of the bribe money and was promised a promotion in the police department.

With juror Saporito holding out for acquittal, the 1958 case ended in a hung jury in the courtroom of Federal Judge Joseph Sam Perry. The defendant in that case was Covelli, 40, an ex-convict and mob muscleman. His attorney was Gorman.

SEVERAL months later from a cell in a hot Texas prison.

Covelli went for Assistant U.S. Atty. Robert F. Monaghan. He poured out the details of the alleged jury fix as well as implicating five top crime syndicate figures in the handling of the stolen whisky.

Covelli's statement along with that of Max Olshon, former Rush Street bartender, led to their appearance before the federal grand jury which returned the jury fix conspiracy indictment to be tried Monday.

Covelli and Olshon also collaborated in the testimony to the grand jury that resulted in the indictment of the five hoods for possessing and conspiring to possess stolen Kentucky bourbon.

Four of them were tried and convicted last spring in Peoria, where they had asked to be tried to avoid the glare of unfavorable publicity. They were all sentenced to seven years in prison and are currently out on bond pending the outcome of their appeal.

THE MEN sentenced by Federal Judge Frederick O. Mercer are James (The Monk) Aligretti, 36, of 20 E. Cedar, vice boss of the North Side; Frank (Hot Dog) Liscandrello, 43, of 4103 N. Broadway, ex-convict with a long arrest record; Louis Darlak, 44, of 2623 1/2 W. 79th St., minor hoodlum; and Dave Falzone, 44, night club manager for the

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Chicago, Ill.

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Edition: Red Streak  
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Editor: John Stanton  
Title: GERALD COVELLI,  
aka; Et al.

Character:

or

Classification: 15-12848  
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SAPORITO



JUDGE PERRY



DI VARCO



GORMAN

The other defendant, Joseph (Ruffy) Lisciandrello, 56, of 3758 Lakewood, Frank's brother, was allowed to withdraw from the trial because of ill health and still faces the charges.

Covelli has been held in the DuPage county jail in Wheaton. Both he and Olshon are expected to testify for the government in the current trial before Judge Will. Monaghan has announced his resignation from government service and the prosecutor will be Assistant U.S. Attorney William O. Bittman.

THEIR cross examination of the tall Covelli is expected to

be a highlight of the defense case. In the Peoria trial, Covelli was on the stand for three days during which he admitted that he was a "natural-born liar." He was confronted with a maze of conflicting statements.

The government has indicated its direct case will take less than two weeks. The time depends largely on the extent of the defense cross examination.

DURING the trial, a series of meetings of crime syndicate members, many of whom are not named in either case, is expected to figure in the government testimony. One indication of this is the conspiracy indictment itself which contains over a dozen overt act allegations.

Practically the entire Chicago area underworld has been linked by police and investigators to the bribe charges. They include gang boss Tony Accardo, Murray (Curly) Humphreys, and Frank La Porte.

There is considerable speculation on whether any of the defendants will take the stand. The indications are that Gorman will and the other two will not, though no definite commitments have been made. Attorney Gorman testified before the grand jury.

The defendants faced possible maximum prison terms of five years in prison and maximum fines of \$10,000.



# 4 CHICAGOANS GET 7 YEARS IN HIJACKING

## Mobsters Also Fined \$3,000 Each

Peoria, June 26 [Special] —Four Chicago gangsters were sentenced in federal court here today to serve seven years in prison and pay fines of \$3,000 each for handling hijacked whisky in Chicago.

The hoodlums, all key figures in crime syndicate rackets on Chicago's north side, are Jim-



Liscandrello (left) and Allegretti.

my [The Monk] Allegretti, 57; Frank [Big Dog] Liscandrello, 44; Louis Darlak, 46, and Dave Falzone, 44.

The conviction, by a jury of six men and six women at a 16 day trial last April, was the first time that Allegretti, Darlak, and Falzone had been convicted of anything more serious than disorderly conduct or traffic violations.

### Three Freed on Bonds

Altho the criminal acts charged against them took place in Chicago, the trial was moved here on the gangsters' complaint they could not get a fair trial in Chicago.

The sentences were received in silence as they were imposed by Judge Frederick O. Mercer, who had presided at the trial. Allegretti, Darlak, and Falzone were allowed to remain on bonds of \$6,000 each. Their attorneys filed notice of intention to appeal the conviction to

the Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago.

Liscandrello is serving a one year sentence in the Cook county jail for running a house of prostitution in Chicago. His brother, Joseph, also was a de-



Darlak (left) and Falzone

fendant in the case but was hospitalized with heart trouble shortly after the trial began.

### Testifies Against Ex-Pals

Each of the convicted defendants was sentenced to a term of seven years for possession of stolen whisky and an additional five year term and a \$3,000 fine for conspiracy to possess the liquor, but the sentences were ordered served concurrently. The defendants could have been given terms up to 15 years and fines of \$20,000.

The government case was based mainly upon the testimony of Gerald Covelli, 39, a one time syndicate gunman who confessed participating in the whisky plot and risked mob death threats to testify against his erstwhile syndicate pals.

### 34 Cases of Whisky

The whisky case was the result of a four year investigation of the syndicate's Chicago north side rackets by federal attorneys and Federal Bureau of Investigation agents.

The gangsters were convicted of possessing and conspiring to possess 34 cases of stolen whisky valued at \$1,520, which was part of a \$40,000 truck cargo of whisky hijacked in December, 1957, at a Chicago loading dock after being transported from Louisville.

FBI agents found the whisky in a night club, the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton st., and a gang b-girl dive, the Silver

Domes saloon, 1100 Lawrence av.

Covelli was charged with possession of the whisky and was brought to trial but the case ended in a deadlock. However, the lone holdout juror six months later confessed the case had been fixed by a Chicago policeman for a \$250 bribe which allegedly came from the crime syndicate.

With Covelli in deeper and deeper trouble, including running stolen cars to Central America, he made a bid for leniency by confessing the whisky and jury fixing plots and taking the witness stand despite a reported mob bounty of \$20,000 on his scalp and threats to his wife and children.

He testified that he and Falzone conspired to bring the stolen liquor to the Cafe Continental, which they operated together; that he, Darlak and Liscandrello handled the liquor at the Silver Domes, in which they were partners, and that Allegretti ordered hijacked liquor hauled to two other syndicate saloons on Chicago's north side.

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THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

3 Star Sports Edition

Date JUN 27 1962

Chicago, Illinois

Page 14 Col. 1

Part I

Editor W.D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI, et al;  
F718; CJ; BRIDERY  
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170 JUL 9 1962

WHO'S NEXT?

# Falzone Giving Hoods the Jitters

BY JACK WILLNER

The big question plaguing the Chicago crime syndicate these days is:

What else did name-dropper Dave Falzone tell the FBI?

Falzone was unveiled as a government informer during the recent Peoria Federal Court trial that resulted in convictions for four hoodlums for possessing and conspiring to possess hijacked whisky.

The Peoria jury convicted Jimmie (The Monk) Allegretti, 57; Falzone, 44; Louis Darlak, 46, and Frank (Hot Dog) Liscianello, 44, and all of them face up to 15 years in prison.

**BUT A** federal jury-fixing indictment growing out of the hijacking case is still pending, and Falzone's role as a government informer could mean more trouble for the syndicate in that case.

During the Peoria trial there were hints that Falzone had also talked to the FBI about other syndicate big-shots, including Joey (Little Caesar) DiVarco, Ross Prio and Dominic DiBello.

Any information about DiVarco could be particularly rewarding to the FBI in the jury-fixing case.

**THIS CASE** developed after Gerald Covelli, 42, a government witness at Peoria, was freed in the whisky hijacking case in 1958 because a federal jury in Chicago deadlocked 11-1 for conviction.

One of the jurors, Robert Saporito, 27, of Elmwood Park,

admitted he had been paid \$250 by his brother, Michael, 32, to hold out for acquittal.

DiVarco, Covelli, Covelli's the Saporitos and Chuckie Hudson, a syndicate hoodlum, were indicted for conspiring to fix the jury.

**ROBERT** Saporito was placed on probation for taking the bribe. Michael, a former Chicago policeman, disappeared and is believed dead—or as a federal investigator put it, "he's either in a sewer or in Mexico."

Robert had admitted that Michael collected \$500 and gave him half of it to hold out for Covelli's acquittal.

The pending indictment charges that some of the bribery arrangements were made in conversations among DiVarco, Gorman, Hudson and Covelli.

Might Falzone have filled in the FBI on some of those alleged conversations?

**IN ADDITION** to unveiling Falzone as an informer, the Peoria trial produced other significant developments:

For one thing, it resulted in the first conviction for Allegretti, who has run syndicate operations on the Near North Side for almost 20 years.

For another, the government won its first conviction against

a top syndicate figure in a long time on a substantive charge—possessing stolen whisky. Generally the government has had to battle the syndicate with such non-substantive charges as income tax evasion.

**FINALLY**, the convictions were a personal triumph for Assistant U.S. attorneys Robert F. Monaghan and John J. Quan and FBI agent William D. Weatherwax.

Monaghan and Quan, holdovers from the regime of former U.S. Atty. Robert Ticken, and Weatherwax pursued the case for more than five years.

"The government just couldn't let up on this case and we won't let up in fighting against hoodlums," Monaghan said.

This could be even worse news for the syndicate than Falzone's name-dropping.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

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Date MAY 2 1962

Chicago, Illinois

Page 45 Col. 1

Part

Editor JOHN STANTON

CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI;  
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# Falzone's 'Trial' Just Starting Double AgentFaces Mob's Wrath

BY NORMAN GLUBOK



In years to come, the whisky hijack conspiracy trial of four Chicago crime syndicate hoodlums now drawing to a close in a Peoria federal courtroom will probably be known as the Tragedy of David Falzone.

A jury of six men and six women is hearing final arguments today. Tomorrow, after receiving instructions from Judge Frederick O. Mercer, they will deliberate.

### Faces Mob Punishment

But Falzone's troubles are not likely to end with the jury's decision. He still will face the wrath of the mob.

The 44 year old Rush street playboy began the trial four weeks ago as the least known of the defendants.

The escapades of Falzone's accused co-conspirators — James [Monk] Allegritti, 56; Frank [Hot Dog] Lisciaandrello, 43; and Louis [Louie] Darlak, 46 — had been making newspaper headlines for years.

But Falzone was just another restaurant manager and syndicate underling whose name was unknown outside the night club circuit.

Now, after 3,000 pages of court testimony, Falzone is revealed as a double agent who fed mob secrets to the Federal Bureau of Investigation up to the time of the trial. Over the years the FBI has

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Part 1

Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

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GERALD COVELLI, et al  
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acquired a reputation for going to extreme lengths to protect the identity of its confidential informants.

#### Forfeits Protection

But Falzone forfeited the right to such protection when he chose to take the witness stand and challenge the testimony of previous government witnesses, including his one-time pal, Gerald Covelli, 40, and FBI agents.

It was Allegritti's attorney, Robert H. Jones of Peoria, who stumbled onto Falzone's connection with the government.

During Covelli's fourth day on the witness stand, Jones committed what trial lawyers agree is a tactical error. He asked a question the answer to which he did not already know.

After getting Covelli to admit that his testimony was at variance with stories he had told in the past, Jones pressed on.

Q.—Do you have an explanation for that, sir? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—What is that explanation? A.—Since then I have been recalled and collaborated with Dave Falzone as to the time and place of my statements.

#### Shocks Court

As the shocked defendants and attorneys turned toward Falzone's chair at the defense table, Jones displayed his incredulity.

Q.—You have collaborated with Dave Falzone on all your statements? A.—Concerning the whisky case.

That exchange opened the floor. Soon the entire story was told to the jury.

Two FBI agents, Robert Buck-

ingham and William Meinke, testified that Falzone's cooperation with the government began in March, 1958, two weeks before the government moved in and seized the remains of a \$70,000 cargo of hijacked bourbon from Falzone's Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton pl.

Another FBI man, William D. Weatherwax, added further details:

#### Refuses to Testify

In April, 1960, two years after Falzone first gave the government information about mob activities, Falzone was called to the federal courthouse in Chicago for a conference with Prosecutors Robert Monaghan and John Quan, assistant United States attorneys.

The prosecutors asked Falzone to be a government witness. Weatherwax testified. But Falzone refused, saying:

"I can't testify. I can't be a witness or they will kill me."

Then, Weatherwax related; Falzone asked that the government indict him along with the others, explaining:

"You have got to make me a defendant or they will know I was talking."

Falzone's undercover cooper-

ation with the government continued even after he was indicted, Weatherwax testified.

As recently as last February, a few weeks before the trial opened, Falzone took him for a ride in his [Falzone's] Thunderbird and pointed out the Subway poolroom in the 1100 block of North Clark street as a hand-book operated by Dominick DiBello.

A week after the trial opened, Weatherwax testified, he bumped into Falzone in the bar of the Sands motel in Peoria, and Falzone told him:

"I'm sick. I got to take the stand and take Jimmy Allegritti out of this thing, or they'll kill me."

#### "Bigger than DiVarco"

Weatherwax testified he suggested that Falzone appeal to Joe [Caesar] DiVarco, Allegritti's boss in the north side mob, but Falzone said it would be futile, adding:

"This is bigger than DiVarco."

Nine days after that conversation, Falzone took the witness stand and testified that Allegritti was innocent of any wrongdoing in the whisky conspiracy.

24 ★★ CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, Sat., April 21, '62

# Falzone Ailment: Mob-itis

## Hijack Case Informer Has Doubts of Survival

BY JACK WILLNER  
Staff Writer

PEORIA, Ill.—Stubby little Dave Falzone is 44. He'd like to get to be 45.

But his birthday is not until October, and Falzone admits he has doubts about being around to blow out the candles.

Falzone is suffering from one of the most fatal ailments that can strike a man in or on the fringe of the Chicago underworld: talking to the FBI.

LESS THAN two weeks ago, Falzone was just one of four defendants in a federal trial here involving an alleged conspiracy to possess hijacked whisky.

The other defendants were well-known hoodlums: Jimmy (The Monk) Allegretti, 57; Frank (Hot Dog) Liscianrello, 44, and Louis Darlak, 46.

But Falzone was just a one-time butcher boy who had grown up to be a Rush Street playboy and sometime employee, manager and operator of Near North Side night spots.

BEING a defendant in a case that could mean 15 years in prison might not seem a picnic to the average citizen. But for Falzone things couldn't have been better.

Then, suddenly, his old pal, Gerald Covelli, 40, a mobster who is now the government's ace witness in the case, put the finger

on Falzone as an FBI informer.

Suddenly the wooden witness chair Falzone had been lounging in as the trial droned on became the hottest seat he had ever plopped his five-foot-six, 165 pounds into.

FALZONE turned ashen and averted his eyes. His fellow defendants squirmed around in their seats to glare at him.

"Boy, did I get the fish eye," Falzone said later.

He got on the witness stand himself and denied being an informer.

But he did admit that he had been questioned about 50 times by FBI agents. Then things got worse for him.

FBI AGENTS were called to the stand and testified that Falzone had indeed talked with them, and that he was so fearful for his life he turned down an offer to be made a conspirator of a defendant.

He insisted, the FBI said, that he be given a subpoena to cover his visits to the FBI office because "Mr. Allegretti knows I've

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Part \_\_\_\_\_

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199 MAY 1 1962





FALZONE



COVELLI



DARLAK



ALLEGRETTI

been in your office 10 minutes after I've left."

The FBI testimony even indicated that Falzone talked about crime syndicate members other than Allegritti and the other two hoodlums on trial here.

Cropping up in the testimony were, for instance, the names of Ross Prio, syndicate overseer on the North Side, and Dominic DiBello, a handbook operator.

FALZONE squirmed through

it all. But he continues to live during the trial with co-defendants Allegritti and Darlak at the Sands Motel here.

"He can be seen sitting around the bar with them, wearing a red cardigan sweater.

Falzone says that at the time of the alleged hijacking he and Covelli were partners in the now-shuttered Cafe Continental

on E. Walton, where some of the stolen whisky was found.

He has been married three times, the last time to a sister of Covelli.

FINAL arguments in the trial are scheduled for Monday, and the case is expected to go to the jury Tuesday.

Meantime, Falzone leaves no doubt he is worried about his life and making it to his next birthday.

"If I don't get on the witness stand he (Allegritti) will kill me, and if I do get on he'll kill me. I've got a problem," he told an FBI agent.

"Are you going to step on the starter of my car every time I take a ride? Can you protect me?" he asked.

# U.S. Ends Its Case Against 4 Hoods

## FBI Man Scuttles Falzone's Denial of Informer Role

BY JACK WILLNER  
Staff Writer

PEORIA—The government Thursday ended its case against four Chicago hoodlums on trial here for possessing stolen whisky. The prosecution's last witness, FBI agent William Weatherwax, shattered earlier testimony by one of the defendants, Dave Falzone, who denied being a government informer.

Weatherwax told of a meeting with Falzone in April, 1960, and testified that Falzone pleaded with the government to make him a defendant in the hijack trial.

"I can't testify and I can't be a witness or they'll kill me," Weatherwax quoted Falzone.

"You have to subpoena me. You have to make me a defendant," the FBI agent quoted Falzone.

While Weatherwax testified, Falzone glumly watched and frequently bit his nails.

EARLIER this week, Falzone, testifying for the defense, categorically denied being an informer.

Weatherwax testified that as recently as April 4 Falzone told the government he did not want to testify against the other defendants.

The agent said he met Falzone that day in the swank Sands Motel, a hoodlum hangout in Peoria, and Falzone told him:

"I have no choice. I have to get up on that witness stand and get Jimmy Allegritti out."

ALLEGRETTI, 57, North Side crime boss and vice lord, is a co-defendant. The government has linked him with the ownership of the Cafe Continental, North Side nightery, one of four places where the government seized stolen whisky in a 1958 raid.

Others named in the indictment charging possession and conspiracy to possess hijacked booze are: Frank (Hot Dog) Pisciadrello, 44, convicted pandarer, and Louis A. Danak, 46, minor hoodlum.

A jury of six men and six women has been hearing the case here in the courtroom of Federal Judge Frederick O. Mercer for the past four weeks.

Divarco, a lieutenant of Allegritti's, is not a defendant.

FBI agent William A. Meincke also leveled a blast at Falzone's protests that he never violated the code of the crime syndicate not to talk.

Meincke said he talked with the dapper Falzone at the Cafe Continental on March 4, 1958, at a table in the restaurant, now called the "Rumpus Room."

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

RED STREAK Edition

Date APR 19 1962

Chicago, Illinois

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Part —

Editor JOHN STANTON

CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI, et al.  
TRIS; OJ; BRIBERY;  
CG 15-12848

MCT-17

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Meincke said, in part, "I asked if he (Falzone) knew Mr. Allegretti. He said as a matter of fact Len Patrick, Gus Alex, John Dibiase, and a man whose first name was Ross had celebrated a birthday at the club just a week previous and that these individuals came to the club quite frequently."

Gus Alex is the gaming boss of the Loop. John (Johnny Bananas) Dibiase and Patrick are top syndicate figures. Ross Prio is the overlord for the North Side over Allegretti.

FALZONE told Meincke that the cafe owed Allegretti's meat company, C. and B. Provision Co., over \$10,000 for merchandise.

"He (Falzone) said that things were not going well at the restaurant and Mr. Allegretti was watching the books carefully," Meincke testified.

"I asked him if he would advise me if Mr. Allegretti or any of the others came into the Cafe Continental, if he would advise me as an agent of the FBI if they were present.

"He replied that he would have to think that over very carefully because he was extremely afraid of those people."

THE GOVERNMENT rebuttal was to close Thursday.

Auto registration records were flown from Springfield for the prosecutors and Jeanne Pappas



ALLEGRETTI



LISCIANRELLO



DARLAK



FALZONE

Covelli, Gerald's ex-wife, was subpoenaed to testify.

It was expected that car documents would show that Darlak had more automobiles than he said he did during his testimony.

One of the reasons Darlak gave for not participating in the distribution of the stolen whisky on the North Side was that his automobile had been wrecked in an accident before the whisky raids.

# Probe Hijack Case Threat

Lives of Witness, Family  
Endangered by Testimony

BY JACK WILLNER

Federal authorities are investigating reports that the star witness in a hijacking case involving syndicate hoodlums was told to change his testimony or he, his ex-wife and their three children would be killed.

The FBI has been called into the case, and the trial has been postponed until Oct. 9 before Federal Judge Julius H. Miner. It was to have started Monday.

The threats were made against Gerald Covelli, 41, reputed one-time triggerman and now a convict. He agreed to testify against five men after he was brought to Chicago from Leavenworth Prison.

NEITHER James P. O'Brien, U.S. attorney, nor James Gale, head of the FBI here, would comment after a long conference Friday, presumably on the Covelli matter.

But The Daily News has learned that in addition to the threats, a bribe offer of \$25,000 also was made to Covelli.

COVELLI pleaded guilty two weeks ago to helping steal a cargo of whisky from a freight forwarding company.

He agreed to testify against Joseph (Joey Caesar) Di Varco in one case, and against some former buddies in a second case.

They are Jimmy (The Monk) Allegretti, Joseph (Ruffy) Liscjandrello, his brother Frank (Hot Dog) Liscjandrello, Louis Darlak and Dave Falzone.

Falzone, when indicted, identified himself as owner of the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton. Since then, Falzone has ended any connection with the place.

AT THE time that Covelli pleaded guilty, Robert S. Moynihan, assistant U.S. attorney, said "gang gossip" was that Covelli would not live long enough to testify against his ex-pals. One attempt on Covelli's life was reported to have been made in prison.

As a result, Covelli has been secretly held here in protective custody. Joseph N. Tierney, U.S. marshal, said it was "in the best interests" of Covelli that he was not sent to the County Jail, where federal prisoners are normally held.

COVELLI is serving a 2½-year prison term for his part as a member of an international auto theft ring. He got his wife Jeanne to divorce him after the conviction, and she is working to support their three children.

About five weeks ago Mrs. Covelli visited him at Leavenworth and told him she had a message for him.

The message: He was to

GERALD COVELLI; Et al

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY; BU 15-38700

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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

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Chicago, Illinois

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Editor JOHN STANTON

CHICAGO OFFICE

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JUN 27 1961



P. LISCIANORELLO

J. ALLEGRETTI



G. COVELLI

J. DI VARCO

change his testimony at the hijacking trial if he wanted to save her life, his life and the lives of their three children.

Covelli refused.

Later, she reported the offer of a \$25,000 bribe if he changed his testimony. This, too, was turned down.

COVELLI was defendant in another hijacking case in 1959 in which a juror, Robert M. Saporito, admitted receiving \$250 from his brother, Michael Saporito, a Chicago policeman, to hold out for Covelli's acquittal.

The two brothers, Di Varco, and three other men were indicted for conspiring to bribe a juror. Robert received a year's probation, but Michael disappeared. Federal authorities believe he was murdered.

Trial of Di Varco and the other two men on the jury-fixing charge is set for hearing after the whisky hijacking case.



# 'GUILTY,' SAYS COVELLI, THEN VOWS TO TALK Tells Judge He'll Go on Stand

Gerald Covelli, 41, "the singing gangster," pleaded guilty to possession of stolen liquor and conspiracy to possess hijacked whisky yesterday in a hearing in the chambers of Judge Julius Miner in federal District court.



Gerald Covelli

He then declared he was ready to testify for the government as its principal witness in the trial June 5 of hoodlum defendants indicted with him. Judge Miner pointed out to Covelli that he could be sentenced to as much as 15 years in prison and fined \$15,000 on his guilty plea.

Judge Miner deferred sentencing Covelli until after the other defendants have been tried.

## In Fear of Mobsters

"The mobsters will shoot my head off if they get a chance," Covelli told Robert Monaghan, assistant United States attorney.

Covelli has refused to talk to reporters. He has been kept under guard by three United States marshals, who fear that hoodlums may try to kill him.

He was brought to Chicago from the federal prison in Terre Haute, Ind., on Monday. He is serving a term there for interstate auto theft.

On his first appearance in court, Covelli asked that Frank J. McGarr, former first assistant United States attorney, be appointed to represent him. McGarr, however, found that Covelli's case had been given to the United States attorney's office. McGarr still was firm. He said he felt

it would be improper for him to be Covelli's counsel.

## Lawyer Recommended

Judge Miner then suggested that Miss Doris Coonrod represent Covelli.

"She is a very fine person," the judge told him. "If you have any problems, tell me and I'll take care of them."

Covelli is the government's

witness in two cases against crime syndicate hoodlums, involving whisky hijacking, stolen liquor, jury fixing, and possibly one murder.

He has promised to testify against syndicate hoodlums Jimmy [The Monk] Allegritti, Joseph [Ruffy] Liscandrello and his brother, Frank [Hot Dog] Liscandrello, Louis Darlak, and Dave Falzone.

In another case Covelli is to be a witness against another gang boss, Joseph [Joey Caesar] DiVarco.

## Jury "Fix" Bared

The Federal Bureau of Investigation discovered that the deadlock of a jury which was dismissed in Covelli's whisky hijacking trial in 1959 was the result of a "fix." Robert M. Saporito, one of the jurors, had been given \$250 by his brother, Michael, a Chicago policeman, to hold out for acquittal.

The Saporito brothers, DiVarco, Charles Hudson, 44, and Richard E. Gorman, an attorney, were indicted on charges of conspiring to bribe a jury.

Robert Saporito received a year's probation for his part in the plot. His brother has been missing since March 22, 1960, and federal authorities believe he has been murdered.

**TWO-GUN BANDIT GETS \$750**  
Grand Farad, 1233 N. Mayfield av., was robbed of \$750 in the tavern at 1523 Ordway av. by a man with two guns, he told police.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

THREE STAR  
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Part II

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI;  
THS; OJ; BRIBERY CB 15-12848

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# Covelli's Plea Paves Way For Prosecution Of 5

A guilty plea Tuesday by Gerald Covelli, 38, in a whisky hijacking case paved the way for prosecution of five fellow defendants, including four reputed syndicate hoodlums.

After Covello pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Judge Julius H. Miner, Asst. U.S. Atty. Robert F. Monaghan told

the judge that Covelli will testify against the five.

The other defendants are James (Monk) Alegetti; Frank (Hot Dog) Liscandrello; his brother, Joseph (Ruffy), and Louis Darlak — linked by investigators to the Accardo mob — and David Falzone, who identified himself as owner of

the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton, at the time of his indictment last June 30.

Covelli pleaded guilty to conspiring to possess 34 cases of pint bottles of liquor stolen Dec. 30, 1957, from an interstate shipment handled by Indianapolis Forwarding Co., 2500 W. Taylor. He also pleaded guilty to possession of the liquor. The

other defendants face the same charges in cases scheduled to be heard starting June 5. The other five have denied guilt.

Covelli's sentencing was delayed until after the other cases are heard. Named by the court as Covelli's attorney was Doris Coonrad.

Earlier in the day, Covelli had selected Frank McGarr, former first assistant U.S. attorney, as his legal counsel. But McGarr declined the job, saying he had headed the government's criminal division here when Covelli was indicted.

Covelli is being held in a secret jail cell to prevent the possibility of hoodlum retaliation against him as an informant, the U.S. marshal's office said.

He was brought here from Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas, where he has been serving a sentence for transporting stolen autos across state lines.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
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## CHICAGO SUN TIMES

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Editor EMMETT DEDMON

CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI;  
IFIS; OJ; BRIBERY

56 JUN 8 1961

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**COVELLI ASKS  
LAWYER; CASE  
SET FOR TODAY**

Arraignment of Gerald Covelli, 41, the government's star witness in two cases against crime syndicate hoodlums, was continued yesterday to 10 a. m. today before Judge Julius H. Miner in federal District court.

Covelli, expected to plead guilty in a whisky hijacking case, was brought to Chicago yesterday under heavy guard from the Terre Haute [Ind.] federal penitentiary, where he is serving a prison term for auto theft. Judge Miner continued the arraignment when Covelli, who does not have a lawyer, asked the judge if Frank McGarr, former first assistant United States attorney, could represent him.

United States Marshal Joseph Tierney said he will keep an extra large guard on Covelli, whose life may be in danger from gang killers. Covelli has promised to testify against some of his gang buddies — Jimmy [The Monk] Allegretti, Joseph Lisciaandrello and his brother, Frank; Louis Darlak; Dave Falzone, and Joseph Di Varco.

GERALD COVELLI, Et al  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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**CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE**

THREE STAR  
SPORTS FINAL Edition

Date MAY 23 1961

Chicago, Illinois

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Editor W. D. MAXWELL

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Covelli Placed In Secret Cell As 'Hot Issue'

The government locked up Gerald Covelli, 38, in a secret jail cell Monday night, and U. S. Marshal Joseph N. Tierney explained:

"Covelli is a very hot issue. I don't want anything to happen to my deputy marshals such as getting shot."

Tierney said he believed the Chicago underworld might be irked at Covelli because he has turned informant against three Accardo mobsters.

Covelli is serving 2½ years in federal prison for sending stolen cars across state lines.

He appeared briefly Monday before U. S. District Court Judge Julius H. Miner, but retreated on a promise to plead guilty in a whisky hijack case.

He asked instead that Miner appoint an attorney to represent him, and the judge agreed to do so, continuing the case until Tuesday.

Covelli had agreed earlier to



Gerald Covelli (hiding from photographer) under guard at U.S. Courthouse. (Sun-Times Photo)

testify against James (Monk) Allegritti, 55; Frank (Hot Dog) Lisciaudrello, and his brother, Joseph (Ruffy).

Federal prisoners usually are locked up in the Cook County Jail while engaged in Chicago court matters. Tierney indicated Covelli may have been taken to a jail in a nearby county.

GERALD COVELLI, Et al.  
 TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
 CG 15-12848 BU 15-38700

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## Hint Covelli To Finger 4 Mobsters

### Indicted in Stolen Whisky Charge

By JACK WILLNER

Gerald Covelli, 37, is expected to testify for the prosecution against five men indicted with him, including four syndicate hoodlums, The Daily News has learned.

Covelli, now serving a federal prison term, is expected to plead guilty Monday in U.S. District Court to charges of conspiracy and possession of stolen whisky.

The other five defendants have pleaded innocent to the same charges.

THE FOUR syndicate hoodlums are Jimmy (The Monk) Allegretti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar; Frank (Hot Dog) Liscandrello, 42, of 4103 N. Broadway; his brother, Joseph (Roughy), 56, of 3758 N. Lakewood, and Louis (Louie) Darlak, 44, of 2623 1/2 W. 79th St.

The fifth man, David Falzone, 42, of 900 N. Rush, identified himself as the owner of the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton, at the time of his indictment in June, 1960.

Covelli is serving a 2 1/2-year term imposed after his conviction in connection with an international auto theft ring.

He was recently moved to the Terre Haute (Ind.) Federal Prison from Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

GERALD COVELLI, Et al  
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# Safe Jail Sought for Gangster

## Hope to Protect Witness from Gang Killers

BY SANDY SMITH

Federal authorities were attempting yesterday to find a jail where Gerald Covelli, 41, the reputed triggerman who became a government informant, will be safe from gang killers.

For Covelli, the singing gangster, there is almost no safe place to hide, government prosecutors said.

Covelli is the government's star witness in two cases against crime syndicate hoodlums, their flunkies and "front" men, and an attorney. Their cases involve whisky hijacking, possession of stolen liquor, jury fixing, and possibly one murder.

### Arrives Here Today

Covelli will be brought to Chicago today under heavy guard from the Terre Haute [Ind.] penitentiary, where he is serving a prison term for auto theft. He will appear before Judge Julius H. Miner in federal District court at 2 p. m. in a whisky hijacking case.

Either today or at a future hearing, he is expected to enter a plea of guilty. At a trial set for June 5, Covelli has

promised to testify against his erstwhile gang buddies—Jimmy [The Monk] Allegretti, Joseph [Ruffy] Lisciandrello and his brother, Frank [Hot Dog] Lisciandrello, Louis Darlak, and Dave Falzone.

In a second case, Covelli will be a witness against yet another gang boss, Joseph [Joey Caesar] DiVarco.

Government prosecutors wish to keep Covelli in Chicago for conferences before the whisky case goes to trial. Robert S. Monaghan, an assistant United States attorney, said that he was concerned over gangster

rumors that hoodlums had vowed to silence Covelli.

### County Jail Ruled Out

"It is in the best interests of Covelli not to be held in the Cook county jail," United States Marshal Joseph N. Tierney said. "Probably we will hold him in some lockup near Chicago."

Covelli, it was learned, began to sing in Houston, Tex., in 1959 when he faced his prison term for auto theft. Soon, federal authorities learned that a "fix" had resulted in a hung jury in the trial of Covelli, for a whisky hijacking on Jan. 20, 1959.

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation discovered that a juror, Robert M. Saporito, had been given \$250 by his brother, Michael, a Chicago policeman, to hold out for acquittal.

The Saporito brothers and three other men — DiVarco, Charles Hudson, 44, a flunky for DiVarco, and Richard E. Gorman, an attorney—were indicted on charges of conspiring to bribe a juror.

### One Brother Vanishes

Robert Saporito received a year's probation for his part in the plot but his brother was reported missing on March 22, 1960, by his wife. He never has been found and federal authorities believe he was murdered.

The jury fixing case, with Covelli again in the role of the chief witness, is set for trial after the whisky case.

"The gang gossip is that Covelli won't live that long," Monaghan said. "We intend to see that he does."

GERALD COVELLI;  
 TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
 BUfile 15-38700

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### ALLEGRETTI TO FACE TRIAL BUT NOT AS 'MONK'

James [Monk] Allegretti, 53, of 20 E. Cedar st., a reputed syndicate payoff man, and four others will go to trial June 5 on charges of conspiracy and possession of \$14,000 worth of whisky hijacked in December, 1957. Judge Julius H. Miner set the trial date yesterday in federal District court after ordering Allegretti's nickname to be stricken from the indictment.

Allegretti has opposed the nickname's inclusion in the indictment on the grounds of its religious connotation. The government claimed that the name stems from Allegretti's habit of scratching the backs of his hands when he is nervous. Judge Miner said he saw no purpose in permitting the nickname to stand in the indictment.

The four others to stand trial with Allegretti are Frank [Hot Dog] Lisciandrello, 4, of 4103 Broadway, a syndicate errand boy; Joseph [Ruffy] Lisciandrello, 56, of 3758 Lakewood av., an ex-convict and Frank's brother; Louis Dariak, 44, of 2623 1/2 W. 79th st.; and David Falzone, 42, of 900 Rush st., manager of the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton pl.

GERALD COVELLI;  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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Date April 6, 1961  
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Part II

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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## Syndicate Boys Don't Like Their Nicknames

Federal Judge Julius H. Miner today deleted the colorful nicknames of three reputed syndicate hoodlums from a whisky hijacking indictment.

The request was made by James [The Monk] Allegetti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar st., who protested that use of the sobriquet was a reflection on his religion. The government said in an answer that Allegetti's friends call him "The Monk" because of a habit of scratching himself "in a manner reminiscent of simian characteristics."

Miner's ruling also applied to defendants Frank [Hot Dog] Lisciaandrello, 42, of 4103 Broadway, and "Hot Dog's" brother, Joseph [Roughy] Lisciaandrello, 56, of 3758 Lakewood av.

Also named in the indictment are Louis Darlak, 44, of 2623 1/2 W. 79th st.; David Falzone, 42, of 900 N. Rush st., owner of the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton st.; and Gerald Covelli, now in Leavenworth prison for auto

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GERALD COVELLI;  
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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

DIAMOND FINAL Edition

Date APR 5 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 3 Col. 4

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Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

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# INDICTMENT

## The Monk's Nickname Is Scratched

U.S. District Judge Julius H. Miner Wednesday ordered the nicknames of hoodlum Jimmy (The Monk) Allegretti and two other men stricken from indictments against them.

Their inclusion, said Miner, was improper.

The matter was brought up by Allegretti, who bitterly complained the nickname "unfairly reflects" on his religion.

Asst. U.S. Atty. Robert Monahan disagreed. He said the nickname was shortened from "monkey," hung on Allegretti because he scratches his sides like an ape on occasion.

THE TWO others whose nicknames were stricken from indictments are Frank (Hot Dog) Lisciandrello and his brother Joseph, "Ruffy."

Allegretti, the two Lisciandrellos and three other men go on trial June 5 before Miner charged with conspiracy to possess stolen whisky.

GERALD COVELLI;  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
CG 15-12848  
BU 15-38700

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## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

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# 5 Plead Innocent On Whisky Counts

## 4 Minor Syndicate Hoods Are Accused of Conspiracy

Five men, including four minor syndicate hoodlums, pleaded not guilty Friday before Federal Judge Julius H. Miner to conspiracy to possess stolen whisky.

The four are Jimmy (The Monk) Allegretti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar; Frank (Hot Dog) Liscandrello, 42, of 4103 Broadway; his brother, Joseph (Roughy), 36, of 3758 Lakewood, and Louis (Louie) Darlak, 44, of 26231 W. 79th St.

The fifth defendant, David Falzone, 42, of the Maryland Hotel, 900 N. Rush, identified himself as the owner of the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton, at the time of the indictment last June 30.

THE MEN are charged with conspiring to possess whisky from a shipment hijacked from the Indianapolis Forwarding Co., 2500 Taylor, Dec. 30, 1957.

Their indictments were an outgrowth of the freeing because of a "hung" jury of another hoodlum, Gerald Covelli, 37, in his trial for possession of 27 cases of the hijacked whisky.

AFTER Covelli was freed in the 1959 trial, a juror, Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armistage, Elmwood Park, admitted he accepted a \$250 bribe to hold out for Covelli's acquittal.

The bribe, he said, was offered by his brother, Michael, a city policeman, since suspended and mysteriously missing since last March 22 and believed slain.

Covelli is now serving a federal sentence in Leavenworth (Kan.) prison for intercepting shipment of a stolen car.

Covelli's attorney, Richard E. Gorman, a former government prosecutor and two other men were indicted on a charge still pending of conspiring to bribe a juror.

GERALD COVELLI, Et al  
TFIS CG 14-12848  
BU 15-38700

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CHICAGO OFFICE	

63 MAR 2 1961



# U.S. Judge Hears Bars Himself from 2 Cases

Federal Judge Joseph Samuel Perry today disqualified himself from trying two cases, one based on a jury fixing indictment, the other on a whisky hijacking.

The jurist, in this unusual procedure, said he "cannot hear" the cases because:

1. He is convinced Atty. Richard E. Gorman, named in the jury fixing indictment "is innocent."

2. He is "thoroughly convinced" of the guilt of two other defendants, Michael Saporito, 3737 Huron st., and Gerald Covelli, now in Leavenworth prison on an auto theft conviction.

3. The judge himself testified before the grand jury that returned the indictments.

4. He may be a "proper" witness in trial of the jury fixing case, either as a government or defense witness.

Ordered Probe  
Judge Perry himself or

dered the jury fixing investigation when a jury trying Covelli last June, on a charge of hijacking a \$14,000 cargo of whisky three years ago, was hung because one juror Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Michael's brother, held out for acquittal.

Robert N. Saporito gave a statement to the FBI that Michael approached him and told him "the boys" would give him \$500 to hold out for acquittal, and that he, Michael, had been promised assignment to the police narcotics detail.

Perry said that, during the Covelli trial, "there was no action by Gorman, Covelli's attorney, which aroused my suspicion."

## Others Named

The jury fixing charge named Covelli; the two Saporitos; Joseph [Caesar] Diarco, 49, of 4275 Jarvis av., Lincolnwood; Charles Hudson 44, of 7105 Milwaukee av., Niles and Gorman.

The five men indicted with Covelli in the new hijacking case are: James [Monk] Allegretti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar st.; Frank [Hot Dog] Liscandrella, 42, of 4103 Broadway; his brother, Joseph [Ruffy], 56, of 3758 Lakewood av.; Louis Darlak, 44, of 2673 1/2 W. 79th st., and David Falcone, 42, of 900 Rush st.

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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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## Hung Justice

TRIAL BY JURY is one of the basic elements of our American system of justice. A juror who so belittles the system that he sells his jury vote is surely undeserving of any sympathy.

Yet Robert M. Saporito, who held out for acquittal of a criminal and brought about a hung jury because he was offered \$250, was let off in federal court with a year's probation.

Judge Joseph Sam Perry said he granted probation because Saporito had spent eight months in jail awaiting trial, and because Saporito's brother, who offered the bribe, has disappeared.

U.S. Attorney Robert Tieken protested that Saporito got off too easily, and his indignation is justified, in our opinion.

The administration of justice is already at a low ebb in the state and local court in Chicago. Regarding jury bribing as a trivial offense which can be expiated by a year's probation is not likely to inspire the extra confidence in the federal court that the situation calls for.

GERALD COVELLI; ET AL  
 TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
 CG 15-12848 BU 15-38700

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# **Saporito Is Given Probation In Bribe Plot, Hung Jury**

Robert M. Saporito was sentenced to a year's probation Wednesday for his part in a bribery plot that resulted in a hung jury.

Saporito was the 'one holdout' for acquittal on a jury trying Gerald Covelli for hijacking a liquor truck. Saporito told police his brother, Michael, a Chicago policeman, offered him \$250 to hold out.

Michael, who also was to be tried on the bribery charge, disappeared March 22.

Robert's lenient sentence was protested by U.S. Atty. Robert Ticken. U.S. District Court Judge Joseph Sam Perry said he granted probation because Robert had spent eight months in jail awaiting trial, and because of Robert's anguish over his brother's disappearance. Robert told investigators that his brother, since fired from the police force, told him he would be assigned to the detective bureau narcotics detail if he were successful in obtaining acquittal for Covelli.

Covelli is serving a term in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., for auto larceny.

GERALD COVELLI; Et al  
 TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
 CG 15-12848 BU 15-38700

## **CHICAGO SUN TIMES**

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6-7-68

# FEDERAL JUROR PUNISHED FOR TAKING BRIBE

**Gets Two Year Term;  
It's Suspended**

Robert M. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, received a suspended sentence of two years and was placed on a year's probation yesterday on a charge of conspiracy to bribe a juror. As a federal juror he admitted taking a \$250 bribe.



Robert Saporito

United States Atty. Robert Ticken, thru his assistant, Robert F. Monaghan, asserted that the probation does not serve the ends of justice. He said bribery of a juror is one of the most grievous offenses in the federal statutes and a prison sentence is called for.

## Brother Is Missing

Robert Saporito's brother Michael, a former Chicago policeman, who gave him the money to hold out against conviction of Gerald Covelli, 37, formerly of 7343 N. Keystone av., Lincolnwood, a hoodlum involved in a whisky hijacking case, has been missing since March 22, 1959.

Judge Joseph Sam Perry in federal District court imposed the sentence on Robert. Robert pleaded no defense and Judge Perry found him guilty Nov. 23. Perry granted Monaghan's motion to place Robert under a \$1,000 appearance bond to assure his appearance at Covelli's second trial.

The judge passed sentence after hearing a probation report which said that Robert Saporito had a good record and had saved the government trial expense. He also pointed out that Saporito had been in the Du Page county jail for eight months in protective custody and under \$100,000 bond to guard against his flight after his brother disappeared. Robert had a good record in the jail, the judge said.

## Jury Vote 11 to 1

Monaghan said a new trial date for Covelli will be set within two weeks. Robert was the holdout on a jury which voted 11 to 1 for Covelli's conviction on Jan. 20, 1957.

Before his disappearance, Michael Saporito reportedly told a grand jury he paid the \$250 because he was promised an assignment on the police narcotics detail if Covelli went free. Covelli is serving a 2½ year term in Leavenworth, Kas., federal penitentiary on an auto theft charge.

GERALD COVELLI; Et al  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
CG 15-12848 BU 15-38700

57 DEC 9 1960

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE  
THREE STAR  
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Chicago, Illinois  
Page 11 Col. 1  
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Editor W. D. MAXWELL  
CHICAGO OFFICE

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# Lawyer, 10 Indicted In Hijacking Case

A surprise expansion of a bribery and whisky hijacking case caught a Chicago lawyer and 10 others in federal indictments Thursday.

The defendants include a suspended policeman, his brother, seven Accardo mobsters and the operator of a widely known Near North Side cafe.

The charges make them liable to prison terms of from seven to 22 years, if convicted.

A key figure is Gerald Covelli, 37, serving 40 months in prison for a plot to mass-ship stolen cars to Guatemala.

## Former U.S. Aid

The indicted lawyer, Richard E. Gorman, 49, of 140 N. Mason, is a former assistant U.S. attorney.

He defended Covelli early in 1959 on charges of hijacking a truckload of whisky valued at \$44,000, in shipment to Chicago from Louisville.

Covelli went free after a jury was deadlocked at 11 to 1 in favor of conviction.

Accused with Covelli of conspiracy in the hijacking are:

James (Monk) Allegritti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar, reputedly in charge of organized vice for the Accardo mob.

Frank (Hot Dog) Lisciandrello, 42, of 4103 Broadway and 940 W. Ainslie, ex-convict who has been arrested 49 times.

His brother Joseph (Ruffy) Lisciandrello, 36, ex-convict with 28 arrests on his record.

David Falzone, 42, of the Maryland Hotel, 900 N. Rush,

operator of Cafe Continental at 44 E. Walton.

Louis Darlak, 44, of 2623 1/2 W. 79th, whose brother Edward was one of six men who escaped from Stateville Penitentiary with Roger Touby in 1942.

Named with Covelli and attorney Gorman in the new bribery indictments are:

Joseph (Little Caesar) Di Varco, 49, of 3275 W. Jarvis, Lincolnwood, an Accardo mob gambling boss.

Charles (Chuckie) Hudson, 44, of 7105 N. Milwaukee, Niles, associate of Di Varco in selling glass-washing machines to taverns.

Michael Saporito, 32, of 3737 W. Hudson, a suspended policeman who has been mysteriously missing since last March 22.

Saporito's brother Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 W. Armitage, Elmwood Park, in protective custody of federal officers.

Robert Saporito now has confessed that his policeman-brother paid him \$250 to hold out for a not-guilty verdict for Covelli.

The latest indictment charges that some of the bribery arrangements were made at Di Varco's Sterile Glass Co., 5 W. Hubbard.

The overt acts alleged include conversations between Gorman and Di Varco, Gorman and Hudson, Gorman and Covelli, Hudson and Di Varco.

Reports have been heard widely at the U.S. Courthouse that both Covelli and Robert Saporito will testify for the government against the others.

Government officials have expressed fears that the suspended policeman may have been murdered.

The hijack indictment charges possession and conspiracy to possess goods stolen from interstate commerce 875 cases of bonded bourbon.

Asst. U.S. Atty. John J. Quan and Robert Monaghan said the evidence would show that 400 cases of the stolen liquor were delivered to Falzone's Cafe Continental.

Liquor from the hijacked cargo also was delivered to Allegritti, the prosecutors said. The theft took place on Dec. 30, 1957.

The indictments set bond at \$100,000 each for the Saporito brothers, \$2,000 for Falzone, \$1,000 for attorney Gorman, and \$10,000 each for the others.

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CHICAGO SUN TIMES

5 STAR FINAL TURF Edition

Date JUL 1 - 1960

Chicago, Illinois

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CHICAGO OFFICE

15-38700-A

GERALD COVELLI;

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY

CG 15-12848

BU 15-38700

62 JUL 13 1960

# 3 Policemen Fired, 3 More Suspended

The civil service commission ordered three patrolmen fired for conduct unbecoming police officers and other charges.

Ordered discharged from the Chicago police department were Robert Ware, of the Marquette district; Leonard Miglieri, of the Englewood district and Michael A. Saporito Jr., of the Cragin av. district.

Saporito, 32, of 3737 Huron st., disappeared last March 22 after he had left his home en route to work as a truck driver, after his suspension. He is listed as a fugitive by the federal government.

## Bribe Charge

He was accused of accepting \$1,000 from Gerald Covelli, who was on trial in January, 1959 for possessing hijacked whiskey, and giving half the money to his brother, Robert, a juror, who held out for acquittal. The jury was deadlocked.

Miglieri, 32, of 609 W. 26th st., was charged also with neglect of duty, making a false report, and receiving a gift in violation of department rules.

Ware was charged with conduct unbecoming a police officer.

## 3 Others Suspended

In addition, three patrolmen were suspended.

They are Ben Balenton, of the Hyde Park district, who was suspended from Nov. 25 thru Nov. 27 for failure to report to duty on Oct. 29 and Thomas Reilly, of the Brighton Park district, suspended from Nov. 29 thru Dec. 3.

Reilly is accused of leaving the district station on Nov. 6 without permission and, while absent, was involved in an accident in a private auto.

Thomas Le Pore was suspended effective Nov. 27 pending further investigation.

Reinstated from suspension is Patrolman Ernest West, of the Marquette district, effective Nov. 27.

GERALD COVELLI;  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY CG 15-12848  
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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Chicago, Illinois

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Part -

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15-38700-A

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#### **Deal Cut For Two**

U.S. District Court Judge Joseph Sam Perry later cut the bond on Allegretti and Di Varco to \$5,000 each.

Allegretti said in asking the reduction that his only income was \$30,000 a year from the C&B Meat Provision Co. at 1136 W. Randolph.

Di Varco said when asked for his occupation that he was "a contractor—more of a subcontractor." Hudson said he received \$20,000 a year from the glass-washing business.

The judge refused to lower Hudson's bond after the government brought out that he had a record for bank robbery and interstate theft. Falzone asked for no reduction and Gorman was allowed to sign his own bond.



JOSEPH DIVARCO



DAVID FALZONE



CHARLES HUDSON

*Rounded up in surprise indictments. (Sun-Times Photos)*



# 11 INDICTED IN LIQUOR HIJACK, BRIBERY CASES

Atty. Richard Gorman,  
Hoodlums Named

Six persons, including Richard E. Gorman, an attorney who has defended members of the crime syndicate, were indicted by a federal grand jury Thursday on charges of conspiring to bribe a juror in a whisky hijacking case.

Five others were named in bills which charged conspiracy and possession of \$14,000 worth of liquor which was stolen Dec. 30 from a truck owned by the Indianapolis Forwarding company, 2500 Taylor st.

## Covelli Named

Gerald Covelli, 37, a former Lincolnwood resident and reputed trigger man now serving a 2½ year sentence in Leavenworth penitentiary



Covelli 37, 400 E. 1st St. Liscian 37, 400 E. 1st St.

for auto larceny, was named as a defendant in both indictments.

He stood trial for the liquor theft, but went free of the charge on Jan. 20, 1959, when one juror, Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armistage av., Elmwood Park, held out against conviction.

Government investigators later obtained testimony that Saporito accepted a \$500 bribe from his brother, Michael Saporito Jr., of 3737 Huron st., a Chicago policeman. The policeman allegedly told his brother "the boys" had asked him to make the fix and had promised him a job on the narcotics detail as a reward.

## Policeman Missing

When this became public knowledge, the policeman disappeared. Both he and his brother were named in the bribery indictment, along with Gorman, 47, of 140 N. Mason st., Joseph [Ceaser] DiVarco, 49, of 4275 Jarvis av., Lincolnwood, a north side hoodlum gambler, and DiVarco's assistant, Charles Hudson, 44, of 7105 Milwaukee av., Niles.

DiVarco is also named in the indictment as the "behind the scenes" owner of the Sterile Glass company, 5 W. Hubbard st., which sells dishwashing machines mainly to Rush street saloons. Hudson, an ex-convict, is identified as the "alleged" owner of the "business."

## Others Indicted

Named in the true bill with Covelli on the whisky theft charges were:

James [Monk] Allegritti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar st., a syndicate payoff man who lists his occupation as a restaurant manager. He has been arrested 10 times without a conviction.

Frank [Hot Dog] Liscian-

drello, 42, of 4103 Broadway, a minor hoodlum who runs errands for the syndicate. He uses the alias of Frank Diello, 940 Ainslie st., has been arrested 49 times and convicted of robbery and burglary.

## Name Cafe Manager

Joseph [Ruffy] Liscian-drello, 56, of 3758 Lakewood av., a brother of Frank, is an ex-convict who operates north side wire rooms and runs gambling games.

Louis Darlak, 44, of 2623½ W. 79th st., a brother of Edward Darlak who escaped from Stateville prison on Oct. 9, 1942, with the late Roger Touhy, prohibition era gangster.

David Falzone, 42, of 900 N. Rush st., manager of the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton pl.

Gorman, who was Covelli's attorney during the whisky hijacking trial, was an assistant United States attorney from 1948 to 1953. His law offices are at 1 N. La Salle st.

GERALD COVELLI

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
CG 15-12848  
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Gorman

## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

THREE STAR  
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Date JUL 1 - 1960

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Part IV

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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176 JUL 8 1960

# Indict 11 In Juror Bribe Case

## 4 Syndicate Hoods, Lawyer Named

A federal grand jury Thursday indicted 11 men—including attorney Richard E. Gorman and David Falzone, manager of the Cafe Continental—in a case involving bribery of a juror at a syndicate hoodlum's trial.

Gorman, a former government prosecutor, was accused of conspiring to bribe a juror at the (1959) trial of hoodlum Gerald Covelli.

Gorman was Covelli's defense attorney.



R. E. GORMAN

Falzone was accused of possessing stolen whisky.

Four syndicate hoodlums were among the 11 indicted.

One defendant is Charley "Chucky" Hudson, 44, of 7105 Milwaukee, Niles, who operates Sterile Glass Co., 5 W. Hubbard, a firm that sells glass washing machines to Near North Side saloons.

**THE INDICTMENTS** stem from a \$500 bribe offered to Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage, Elmwood Park, a juror at the Covelli trial.

Saporito got only \$250. He was the lone holdout to acquit Covelli on charges of possessing hi-jacked whisky.

The bribe was offered by his brother, Michael, a policeman, since suspended and mysteriously missing since March 22. Police fear he is dead.

The **62-11189-60** case had promised to arraign Michael to get a job on the police narcotics detail if he bribed his brother, Robert, to tell the government.

GERALD COVELLI;  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
CG 15-12848 BU 15-38700

**THE GRAND jury** returned two indictments. The first charged six men—including Falzone and Covelli—with possessing stolen whisky and conspiracy.

The other defendants are: Jimmy "the Monk" Allegretti, 33, of 20 E. Cedar, reputed Near North Side prostitution boss who has a record of 10 arrests and no convictions.

Frank "Hot Dog" Liscian-drello, 42, of 4103 Broadway, an ex-convict arrested 49 times and convicted of armed robbery and burglary. He also is known as Frank Drello, of 540 Athalia, Apartment 6.

Joseph "Roughy" Liscian-drello, 56, of 3758 Lakewood, an ex-convict with 28 arrests and a prison term for counterfeiting. Joseph is Frank's brother.

Louis Darlak, 44, of 2623 1/2 W. 79th st., brother of Eddie Darlak, who broke out of Joliet penitentiary in 1945 with the late Roger Touhy.

**FALZONE**, 42, lives in the Maryland hotel, 900 Rush. Covelli, 38, is now serving time in Leavenworth penitentiary on a stolen auto conviction.

If convicted, they face maximum penalties of 15 years in prison and a \$15,000 fine.

The whisky involved was 875 cases of half pints. The government said some of it was served to customers at Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton pl.

**THE SECOND** indictment charged Gorman and five others of conspiring to bribe the juror.

If convicted, all but Robert

Saporito face maximum penalties of 22 years in prison and \$32,000 fines.

The bribery indictment names Gorman, Covelli, the Saporito brothers, Hudson, and Joseph "Little Caesar" DiVar-co, 49, of 4275 Jarvis, Lincoln-wood, who had been an investigator for attorney Nathan Shavin, recently convicted of mail fraud.

**GORMAN**, 47, of 140 N. Mason, was legal counsel for Covelli at the 1959 trial. He has offices at 1 N. LaSalle.

He frequently represents Cicero and Calumet City B-girls and strippers when they get arrested.

He served as a government prosecutor under former U.S. Attorney Otto Kerner, now candidate for governor. He formerly was a Chicago policeman.

A \$10,000 bond was set for all the defendants except Gorman, with \$1,000, and Falzone, with \$2,000.

The grand jury inquiry was conducted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Quan.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

RED STREAK Edition

Date 6-30-60

Chicago, Illinois

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Part -

Editor THOMAS COLLINS

CHICAGO OFFICE

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376 JUL 8 1960

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
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# 6 Indicted on Charge of Jury Fix

A federal grand jury today indicted six men on charges of "fixing" a juror in the Gerald D. Covelli whisky hijacking trial last January.

Another indictment named Covelli and five others on charges of possessing stolen whisky involved in the jury-fix case.

Charged with conspiracy to bribe a juror are:

Now in Prison  
 Covelli, 37, formerly of 7343 Keystone av., Lincolnwood, who is now serving a 2½ year term in Leavenworth federal prison on a stolen auto charge.

Joseph [Caesar] Divarco, 49, of 4275 Jarvis av., Lincolnwood, an ex-convict identified by federal prosecutors as concealed owner of the Sterile Glass company, 5 W. Hubbard st.

Richard E. Gorman, 47, of 110 N. Mason st., a former assistant United States attor-

ney, counsel for Covelli in the alleged jury-fixing case.

Michael A. Saporito Jr., 32, of 3737 Huron st., suspended Chicago policeman listed by the government as a fugitive.

Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, the juror charged with accepting the bribe in the Covelli case. He is a brother of Michael.

Charles [Chuckie] Hudson, 44, of 7105 Milwaukee av., Niles, an ex-convict said by the government to be proprietor of the Sterile Glass company, and "front man" for Di Varco.

## Hijack Charge

Named with Covelli in the indictment charging possession of stolen whisky are:

James [Jimmy the Monk] Allegretti, 55, of 20 E. Cedar st., arrested many times since 1930, but never convicted.

Frank [Hot Dog] Liscian-drello, 42, of 4103 Broadway, ex-convict.

Joseph [Ruffy] Liscian-drello, 56, of 3758 Lakewood av., an ex-convict and brother of Frank.

Louis Darlak, 44, of 2623½ W. 79th st., brother of Eddie Darlak, who escaped from Stateville prison in 1945 with the late Roger Touhy and Basil Banghart.

David F. Falzone, 42, of 900 Rush st., who says he manages the Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton st.

GERALD COVELLI;  
 IFIS, OJ; BRIBERY  
 CG 15-12848

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**THE CHICAGO AMERICAN**

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Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

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Tolson ✓  
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File  
 Gerald Cavelli  
 et al  
 FBI - Brooklyn, N.Y.

UPI-75

(ATTORNEY)

CHICAGO--A FORMER ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY WAS INDICTED TODAY ON A CONSPIRACY CHARGE GROWING OUT OF AN ALLEGED JURY-TAMPERING CASE IN FEDERAL COURT.

NAMED IN AN INDICTMENT WHICH ALSO LISTED SEVERAL FORMER CONVICTS OR ALLEGED SYNDICATE FIGURES WAS RICHARD GORMAN, 47, FORMER CHICAGO POLICE OFFICER, WHO WAS FROM 1945-1953 AN ASSISTANT U.S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY HERE AND THEN WENT INTO PRIVATE PRACTICE.

INVOLVED IN THE TANGLED BACKGROUND OF THE CASE ARE A CHICAGO POLICEMAN, MISSING SINCE LATE MARCH AND FEARED SLAIN; AND LOUIS DARLAK, BROTHER OF EDDIE DARLAK WHO WAS A COMPANION OF THE LATE ROGER TOUCHY IN A 1945 BREAK FROM ILLINOIS STATE PENITENTIARY AT JOLIET. TOUCHY WAS SLAIN LAST YEAR, AND HIS KILLERS HAVE NOT BEEN FOUND.

TWO INDICTMENTS, ONE CONCERNING THE CHARGE OF JURY-FIXING AND THE OTHER A RELATED CASE OF CONSPIRACY INVOLVING STOLEN LIQUOR, WERE RETURNED BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN THE COURT OF U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE WILLIAM J. CAMPBELL. TWELVE PERSONS WERE INDICTED IN ALL.

GORMAN WAS INDICTED FOR ALLEGED CONSPIRACY TO TAMPER WITH A FEDERAL COURT JURY THAT CONSIDERED A LIQUOR HIGH-JACKING CASE AGAINST GERALD COVELL, FORMER MANAGER OF TWO NEAR NORTH SIDE NIGHT CLUBS. COVELL SINCE HAS BEEN SENT TO FEDERAL PRISON ON AN UNRELATED CHARGE, BUT HE WAS ACQUITTED ON THE LIQUOR CHARGE WHEN THE JURY REPORTED, LAST JAN. 20, THAT IT WAS UNABLE TO AGREE IN THE CASE.

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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# Missing Cop Feared Slain In Juror-Bribery Case

Federal investigators said Wednesday that they feared a missing Chicago policeman may have been murdered to silence him in a bribery case. The fears were expressed as two of the Chicago underworld's leading pleaders of immunity under the Fifth Amendment, James (Monk) Allegritti and Joseph (Caesar) DiVarco, went before a special federal grand jury. The policeman, Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 W. Huron, is under indictment in the bribery case.

Other defendants are his brother, Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage, Elmwood Park, and Gerald Covelli, 37.

Robert Saporito has testified that his brother gave him \$250 to vote not guilty for Covelli while he was serving on a jury in U.S. District Court.

Covelli since has been sentenced to 30 months in prison for interstate auto theft.

The policeman has been quoted by his brother as saying that "the boys" (meaning the Accardo mob) wanted Covelli acquitted.

Allegritti and DiVarco, who frequently have refused to testify on the ground of self-incrimination, reportedly were called to be asked if they knew about the bribe.

GERLAD COVELLI;  
 TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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 BU 15-38700

## CHICAGO SUN TRIBES

5 STAR FINAL TURF Edition

Date APR 28 1960

Chicago, Illinois

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Editor EMMETT DEDMON

CHICAGO OFFICE

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# QUIZ 2 HOODLUMS IN BRIBE OF JUROR AT HIJACKING TRIAL

Two syndicate hoodlums, James [Monk] Allegritti and Joseph [Caesar] Vi Varco, appeared briefly Wednesday before the federal grand jury investigating the bribery of a juror in the hijacking trial of Gerald Covelli in January of 1959.

The jury is seeking the source of \$500 which Michael Saporito, 31, of 3737 Huron st., a suspended policeman, is said to have received to persuade his brother, Robert, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, a juror, to hold out for acquittal. Robert has admitted receiving \$250. The trial ended with a hung jury.

Both Saporito brothers are under indictment, and Michael Saporito has disappeared. Covelli, now serving a term in Leavenworth penitentiary for automobile theft, formerly was employed as a muscle man by Di Varco.

## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

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Date APR 28 1960

Chicago, Illinois

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Part 11

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

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# U.S. Seizes Juror for Protection

## Caused Deadlock in Hood's Trial

A juror who admitted taking a \$250 bribe to vote to acquit a syndicate hoodlum in a federal whisky hijacking trial was taken into protective custody Friday. The juror's brother, a suspended Chicago policeman accused in the bribe, has been missing a month and is feared to have been killed.

Judge Joseph Sam Perry of Federal District court ordered the protective custody, and the juror, Robert N. Saporito, 27, was arrested in his home at 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park. He was held in \$100,000 bond.

### Causes Jury Deadlock

Saporito was the lone juror to vote for acquittal of Gerald Covelli, 37, in a trial before Judge Perry on Jan. 20, 1959. The jury became deadlocked.

A grand jury investigating the rumors of a fix in the case indicted on bribery charges Covelli, Saporito, and Saporito's brother, Michael Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., a policeman.

Robert Saporito told authorities his brother offered him \$500 to hold out for ac-



Robert (left) and Michael Saporito Jr.

quittal of Covelli. Robert quoted his brother as saying: "The 'boys' have approached me on this. If you vote not guilty and prevent a guilty verdict there is \$500 in it for you and a job with the police narcotics detail for me."

### Hoodlum Goes to Prison

The indictments came last July. The Saporitos were freed in \$5,000 bond each. Covelli went to Leavenworth penitentiary on another, unrelated charge.

Meanwhile, on March 22, Michael Saporito disappeared. His car was found a month later in a parking lot at Midway airport.

On Friday, Robert Monaghan, assistant United States attorney, went before Judge Perry to have the missing man's bond raised from

\$5,000 to \$30,000 and to provide an occasion for federal officials to look for him.

### Judge Tells Fears

Judge Perry approved the action and noted:

"This man's disappearance is disturbing to the court and to society as a whole. Michael could have disappeared because he didn't want to appear but the history of these cases is to the contrary."

Perry indicated he thought Michael might have been dealt with violently and ordered his brother held "for his own good and for the certainty of getting him here for trial."

Covelli formerly managed two north side night clubs. His trial concerned sale of hijacked Canadian whisky in one of them. A new trial is pending.

## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

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Part 1

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## Federal Jury Case

# Trial Fix Quiz Calls 2 Hoodlums

BY EDWARD D. WILLIAMS

Two syndicate hoodlums have been subpoenaed to appear before a federal grand jury investigating an alleged fix of a trial jury, CHICAGO's AMERICAN learned today.

James [Monk] Allegretti and Joseph [Caesar] DiVarco have been ordered to appear at 9:30 a. m. April 28 in the United States courthouse to tell what they know about the alleged jury bribe.

Veteran courthouse observers say they expect both men to invoke the 5th amendment because a truthful answer might tend to incriminate them.

Allegretti, 34, last year was a witness before a special federal grand jury which investigated crime syndicate operations and alleged hoodlum interests in near north side night clubs and restaurants. He lists himself as head of a meat provision company.

### Di Varco In Senate Quiz

DiVarco is described by police as a north side syndicate gambling figure. He was a reluctant witness when he testified before the Senate rackets committee in 1958 during an investigation of hoodlum infiltration of Chicago restaurant unions.

CHICAGO's AMERICAN reported exclusively on April 12 that the regular grand jury was seeking to tie top hoodlums into the jury fix case. A mistrial was declared in the case, which involved a crime syndicate figure who faced a whisky hijacking charge.

The defendant was Gerald C. Covelli, 37, formerly of 7343 N. Keystone av., Lincolnwood, who is serving a 30 month prison term on another charge.

The jury was discharged

after an 11 to 1 deadlock. The holdout against conviction was Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, a free lance artist.

The federal government later indicted Covelli, Saporito, and Patrolman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st. on the jury bribe charge.

The government charged that Policeman Saporito, Robert's brother, offered \$500 to Robert to vote against conviction and that he later paid him \$250 of the bribe money.

In a confession to the FBI, Robert Saporito quoted Michael as saying:

"The boys have approached me on this. If you vote not guilty and prevent a guilty verdict, there is \$500 in it for you and a job with the narcotics detail for me."

Robert Saporito said his brother did not disclose the identity of "the boys."

### Policeman Missing

Michael Saporito, since suspended from the police force, was reported missing in late March. Government investigators theorize that he was either slain for bungling the jury fix or that he is ducking a federal subpoena.

Covelli's background is tied in with the crime syndicate. He was an associate of Paul [Needlenose] Labriola and James Weinberg, whose bodies were found in an auto trunk in 1954. Both had been strangled.

He was sentenced to prison in Houston, Tex., last January on a stolen auto charge and is serving the time in Leavenworth federal prison. He was brought here two weeks ago to testify before the grand jury.

Mr. Tolson ☒  
Mr. DeLoach ☒  
Mr. Mohr ☒  
Mr. Bishop ☒  
Mr. Casper ☒  
Mr. Callahan ☒  
Mr. Conrad ☒  
Mr. Felt ☒  
Mr. Gale ☒  
Mr. Rosen ☒  
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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Chicago, Illinois

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Part 1

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CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI;

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
CG 15-12848  
BU 15-38700

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46 MAY 2 1960

# U.S. REOPENS PROBE IN JURY BRIBERY CASE

A federal grand jury in Chicago has reopened its investigation into the alleged fixing of a federal jury which in January, 1959, failed to convict a crime syndicate figure in a whiskey hijacking case.



Covelli

Target of the probe is Gerald Covelli, 37, formerly of 7343 N. Keystone av., Lincolnwood, who is under indictment with two other persons for tampering with a federal jury.

## Deadlock at 11 to 1

Covelli was tried on a whiskey hijacking charge before Judge Joseph Sam Perry in federal District court, but the jury became deadlocked on an 11 to 1 vote for conviction on Jan. 20, 1959. A new trial is pending. Covelli is serving a two and a half year sentence in Leavenworth federal penitentiary for auto theft.

The new jury is attempting to determine who was behind a \$500 bribe offered to the holdout juror by the jur-

or's brother, a Chicago policeman.

After the mistrial, federal authorities learned of the bribe offer and arrested Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, a free lance artist who was the holdout juror, his brother, Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., the policeman, and Covelli for tampering with the jury.

In a statement given to federal authorities after his arrest, Robert Saporito admitted accepting the bribe and reportedly quoted his brother as saying: "The 'boys' have approached me on this. If you vote not guilty and prevent a guilty verdict, there is \$500 in it for you and a job with the police narcotics detail for me."

## Policeman Disappears

Michael is accused of offering the \$500 bribe and giving his brother \$250, which Michael said was given him by Covelli.

Michael was reported missing by his wife, Marianne, when he failed to report for work March 22 as a truck driver at 2001 N. Major av. He has been suspended from the police department.

Robert F. Mongahan, assistant United States attorney, said he may ask the federal District court to fix a court date and issue a summons for Michael Saporito. This would enable the federal agencies to enter the search for the missing policeman.

**GERALD COVELLI;**

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY

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CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

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Part IV

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# Jury Fix Probe Is Reopened

*Cop in Hoodlum  
Case Disappears*

A federal grand jury has reopened an investigation of an alleged jury fixing case in the trial of a syndicate hoodlum charged with liquor hijacking.

The investigation follows the disappearance of a suspended Chicago policeman who was involved in the alleged jury fixing.

THE policeman is Michael Saporito, 31, of 3737 W. Huron, formerly of the Cragin district. He has not been seen since March 22.

He is under indictment for allegedly offering his brother, one of the jurors, \$500 to vote not guilty.

Defendant in the trial was Gerald Covelli, 37, formerly of 7343 N. Keystone, now serving a 30-month term for auto theft. He was sentenced in January, 1959, in Houston, Texas.

SAPORITO'S brother, Robert, 27, of 7301 Armitage, Elmwood Park, a free lance artist, is under indictment on a charge of agreeing to accept a bribe.

Covelli was tried here on charges of liquor hijacking, but Federal Judge Joseph Sam Perry declared a mistrial after a jury failed to reach a verdict.

51 APR 22 1960

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. St. Clair \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Fears Missing Cop Fled or Is 'In Sewer'

## U.S. Aide Tells His Theory On Fate of Trial Fix Figure

A federal official says he fears that a missing policeman, under indictment for fixing a jury, is "either in a sewer or in Mexico."

The suspended policeman, Michael Saporito Jr., 31, was reported missing March 22 after leaving his home for a temporary trucking job.

The fear was expressed by Albert Manion, assistant U.S. attorney in charge of criminal cases.

"It seems odd that he should disappear when the last roadblock to bringing him to trial is out of the way," said Manion.



COVELLI

SAPORITO was indicted last July for allegedly fixing a jury in the trial of syndicate

hoodlum Gerald Covelli, 39.

Also indicted was Saporito's brother Robert, 27, who was the only juror to hold out for acquittal in Covelli's trial for theft of an interstate shipment of whiskey.

Michael was accused of offering his brother \$500 to hold out for acquittal.

MEANWHILE, Arthur Adler, former owner of the Trade Winds, Rush st. night spot, was buried as police admitted they don't know who killed him, why, or when, then stuffed his nude body in a sewer.

No cause of death has

been established, although it is suspected he was poisoned, or possibly strangled.

Adler disappeared Jan. 20. His body was found Monday. His widow, Mary, 40, told investigators she believes he was killed by robbers but police have rejected this theory.

Police kept a lookout at Adler's funeral for any of the hoodlums who hung around his night club, but none showed up. Most were reported to be in Florida.

GERALD COVELLI:

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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## 2 Plead Not Guilty In Jury Fix

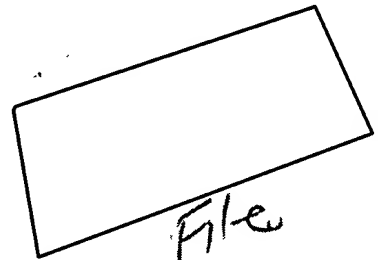
A suspended policeman and his brother pleaded not guilty Wednesday before Federal Judge Joseph Sam Perry to charges of fixing the jury at the trial of a hoodlum.

Judge Perry said he will set a trial date Oct. 5 for the brothers. They are Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 W. Huron, the policeman, and Robert Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage, Elmhurst Park.

MICHAEL is accused of accepting \$500 from Gerald Covelli, who was on trial for possessing hijacked whisky, and giving half the money to Robert, who was a juror at the trial.

Robert held out for acquittal and the jury was discharged when it announced a deadlock of 11-1 for a guilty finding. It was charged.

Covelli also was indicted but is awaiting trial in Houston, Tex., on another charge.



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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

Red Flag Edition

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Editor EVERETT NORLANDER

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## Cop Denies Bribe Offer

A suspended Chicago policeman, Michael Saporito Jr., 31, today pleaded not guilty to a charge of offering a \$500 bribe to his brother, Robert, 27, who was a juror in a whisky hijacking trial.

Robert, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, has admitted accepting \$250 from his brother to vote not guilty in the trial of Gerald C. Covelli last January.

Covelli is charged with the possession of stolen whisky.

The jury voted 11 to 1 for conviction of Covelli. Robert was the only holdout.

Federal Judge Joseph Perry said he will set a trial date on Oct. 5.

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CHICAGO OFFICE

GERALD COVELLI; [redacted]  
TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
CG 15-12848  
BU 15-38700

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# How Cop Held Out On <sup>X-6</sup> Bribed Brother

\$500 Was to Go to Juror  
But Kin Only Delivered \$250

The details of how a policeman bribed his brother to "fix" a hoodlum's trial—but held out half the bribe for himself—were disclosed Tuesday as both men were indicted.

Gerald Covelli, hoodlum with a long record, paid \$500 to Policeman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 W. Huron, it was charged.

The money was to go to Saporito's brother Robert, 27, who was a juror at Covelli's trial where he was charged with possession of stolen liquor.

Robert Saporito told FBI agents he only got \$250 of the

money. He lives at 7301 W. Armitage, Elmwood Park.

THE FEDERAL grand jury indicted all three men on charges of obstruction of justice.

Michael Saporito has been suspended from the police force. Covelli is now in jail in Houston, Tex., waiting trial for his part in an international auto theft ring.

GERALD COVELL

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

*Red Star* Edition

Date JUL 21 1959

Chicago, Illinois

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Part —

Editor EVERETT NORLANDER

CHICAGO OFFICE

15-38700-A-  
NOT RECORDED  
JUL 28 1959



## Cop, Brother Indicted in Juror Bribe Probe

The federal grand jury today indicted a suspended policeman, his brother and a hoodlum in the alleged bribing of a juror.

The defendants are Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., the suspended policeman; Robert Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, the juror involved; and ex-convict Gerald C. Covelli, 39.

Michael and Covelli were charged with giving a \$300 bribe to Robert, member of the jury that acquitted Covelli of charges of possession

of stolen whisky. The jury was reported 11 to 1 for conviction. Robert's vote hung the jury.

Robert is charged with having accepted the bribe for his jury vote.

The brothers are free on bond. Covelli is in federal custody in Houston, awaiting trial on charges of receiving and concealing stolen autos in connection with an international ring.

The indictments were returned before Federal Judge Michael L. Igoe.

GERALD COVELLI;

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

*Diamond* Final Edition

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Chicago, Illinois

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Part 1

Editor HARRY REUTLINGER

CHICAGO OFFICE

15-38700-A -  
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149 (JUL 28 1959)

# Grand Jury to Hear Bribe Case

A young federal attorney will go before the grand jury here tomorrow to seek indictments against three men involved in a jury bribe case that the attorney helped break.

The attorney is Robert F. Monaghan, 37, of 7351 Paxton av.

The men against whom he will seek true bills are Chicago policeman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st.; his brother, Robert Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, a free lance artist, and Gerald Covelli, 39, Capone crime syndicate hoodlum and reputed killer.

Covelli was being tried for whiskey hijacking last January in federal court here. He was acquitted when a lone member of the jury held out against a guilty verdict. The juror was Robert Saporito.

A few months ago Max Olshon, a leading figure in an international stolen auto ring, was brought to Chicago to identify two lawyers as members of the ring. Covelli also was a member of the ring.

## TELLS OF PAYOFF

Olshon told Monaghan that he had seen Covelli give an unknown man \$1,000 to fix the jury in his case.

Monaghan said:

"Olshon sang like a bird, but he didn't come up with the name of the person to whom Covelli had given that \$1,000.

"It might have been Michael Saporito, or somebody else. We're not sure yet.

"We do know that when an FBI agent told Robert Saporito, 'You got \$500 for holding out for an acquittal, didn't you?', Robert blanched and said it wasn't \$500. It was \$250, and that his brother, Michael had held on to the other \$250.

"For all we know, Michael really got the \$1,000, told his brother, he only got \$500, and kept \$750

of the \$1,000. Or, Michael may have had to split the original \$1,000 with someone else."

## COP SUSPENDED

Monaghan said he would try to get indictments against Michael Saporito and Covelli on charges of giving a bribe, and against Robert Saporito on a charge of accepting a bribe. Michael Saporito has been suspended from the police force by Commissioner O'Connor.

Giving a bribe carries a maximum penalty of \$20,000 fine and 15 years in prison. Accepting a bribe is punishable by as much as a \$2,000 fine and two years in prison.

Covelli at present is in federal custody in Houston in connection with the stolen auto investigation. Michael Saporito is free on \$1,000 bond and Robert is free on \$5,000 bond pending their appearance before C. S. Bentley Pike, United States commissioner, on July 28.

## BIGGEST CASE

Monaghan modestly called the case "interesting, but pretty routine." However, he admitted that it probably is the biggest he has handled since joining the federal staff here on Dec. 6, 1957.

Monaghan, a father of six, is a graduate of Mount Carmel High school, the University of Chicago and Loyola Law school.

GERALD COVELLI;

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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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# BLAME CRIME SYNDICATE IN JURY FIX CASE

## FBI Seeks Hoods Who Offered Bribe

Government sources said Friday that the crime syndicate is responsible for the bribing of a federal juror who caused dismissal of a jury in the whisky hijacking trial of Gerald Covelli, 39, syndicate hoodlum and reputed



Covelli

killer.

The jury "fix" last January has resulted in the arrest of Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., a Chicago policeman, and his brother, Robert, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, free lance artist, who was the bribed juror.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is searching for syndicate henchmen who are reputed to have given \$500 to Michael Saporito with which to bribe his brother to hold out for a not guilty verdict for Covelli. It was Robert



(TRIBUNE Photo)  
Handcuffed Saporito brothers, Robert (left) and Michael, in Federal building Friday.

Saporito's stand which prevented the jury from finding Covelli guilty by a required unanimous vote.

### Find Another Link

Another link to the syndicate, government sources said, was provided when both brothers were released on bond Friday. The bondsman who provided bail — \$10,000 for Michael and \$5,000 for Robert — was Pat Cerone, a brother of Jack Cerone, former chauffeur for and top lieutenant of Tony Accardo, syndicate chieftain. Jack Cerone is the most of Accardo's Fourth of July parties for syndicate "top brass" at Cerone's home, 2000 N. 77th av., Elmwood Park.

DiVarco is known to have used Covelli as a gun hand and muscle man in his conduct of syndicate affairs. Some believe that the syndicate engineered a federal jury "fix" for Covelli because they owed him a great debt.

### Hearings Continued

Meanwhile, the Saporito brothers were arraigned before C. S. Bentley Pike, United States commissioner, who continued hearing for both until July 28. They were represent-

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Chicago, Illinois

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Part I

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

### GERALD COVELLI:

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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ed by Atty. Joseph E. Green. Michael was charged with offering a bribe to a federal juror, and his bond was set at \$15,000. Robert was charged

with accepting a bribe as a federal juror, and his bond was set at \$10,000. Atty. Green persuaded Judge Michael L. Igoe of federal District court to reduce the bonds to the amount posted.

Robert F. Monaghan, assistant United States attorney, and District Judge Joseph Sam Perry, who was forced to release the jury when it could not reach the required unanimous verdict, disclosed Friday how the jury tampering case was broken. Judge Perry gave most of the credit to Monaghan, a 37 year old attorney who has been on the federal staff since Dec. 6, 1957.

#### Covelli in Custody

Covelli is now in federal custody in Houston as the central figure in an international stolen car ring which disposed of \$100,000 worth of cars stolen in the United States to customers in Guatemala and Mexico. Another chief figure in the ring is Max Olshon, also held in Houston.

Olshon was brought to Chicago several months ago to identify two lawyers as members of the ring. They are Seymour Kurtz, 29, of 6331 N. Albany av., and Harold Turner, 27, of 2649 Greenleaf av., both of whom have been indicted in Texas with Covelli and Olshon.

While in the federal marshal's lockup on the sixth floor of the courthouse here, Olshon asked to see Mona-

ghan, who is prosecuting the car theft case, and told him that there was a "fix" in the jury in the Covelli hijacking case.

Monaghan said Friday that at the time of Covelli's trial he was very particular in picking jurors because of Covelli's syndicate connections, but that Robert Saporito appeared to be an intelligent young man of good family background and he discovered nothing against him.

Monaghan reported Olshon's conversation to the FBI which immediately began to question jurors. They interrogated several before visiting Saporito.

Because Saporito was the lone holdout among the 12 jurors, an FBI agent put the one question to him that had not been asked of any other jurors. Pointing a finger at Saporito, the agent said, "You got \$500 for holding out for an acquittal, didn't you?"

#### He Breaks Down

At that, Saporito blanched, broke down, and confessed, implicating his policeman brother. The arrests followed.

Vance O. Burgess, 53, of 6506 Tower Circle dr., Lincolnwood, foreman of the Covelli jury, said that he did not suspect at the time that Saporito had been bribed.

Monaghan said that he will seek grand jury indictments against the Saporitos before they are due to appear before the commissioner for hearing, and that it is likely conspiracy charges will be filed against Covelli as well.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

4-Fri, July 17, 1959 \*\* The Chicago American

# Bond Set for Cop, Brother in Bribe

A policeman and his lone juror holdout against conviction of Covelli. If convicted, Michael would be subject to a prison sentence of up to 15 years and a fine of up to \$20,000, and Robert to a possible 2 year prison sentence and fine of \$5,000.

Pike set the higher bond for policeman Michael Saporito Jr., who is charged with offering to bribe a juror, Robert N. Saporito, 27, the juror, is charged with accepting a bribe.

## BOND REDUCED

Federal Judge Michael L. Igoe, however, reduced the bond of Michael to \$10,000 and that of Robert to \$5,000 on petition of their attorney, Joseph Green.

Green contended that the bonds were excessive since the brothers have no previous police record and come from a good family.

Assistant United States Atty. Robert F. Monaghan opposed the bond reduction.

Michael is accused of having given his brother \$500 to vote against convicting Gerald C. Covelli, 39, an ex-convict who was on trial on charges of possession of whisky stolen from an interstate shipment.

Robert Saporito was the

Pike continued the hearing until July 28. Monaghan said that federal grand jury indictments will be sought against the brothers.

Michael was arrested yesterday in his home at 3737 W. Huron st. and Robert in his home at 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, by FBI agents.

The vote of Robert, a commercial artist, against Covelli's conviction resulted in a hung jury Jan. 19 before Judge Joseph Sam Perry.

Perry said the investigation began when he told Assistant United States Atty. Robert Monaghan that he suspected something was wrong with the jury and that it involved Saporito.

## PROMOTION PROMISED?

Richard D. Auerbach, chief FBI agent here, said Robert Saporito told him he was given the money by his

GERALD COVELLI:

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY  
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*Diamond Trial* Edition  
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 Chicago, Illinois  
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 Editor HARRY REUTLINGER  
 CHICAGO OFFICE

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 149 JUL 29 1959



**MICHAEL SAPORITO JR.**  
Policeman arrested.



**ROBERT SAPORITO**  
Bribe charged.

brother the day before jury deliberations began.

Auerbach said the policeman got the money from Covelli to influence his brother to vote not guilty and bring about a hung jury. Covelli also promised Saporito a promotion to police narcotic squad if his brother co-operated.

Covelli at the time of the trial was part owner of the Silver Dome tavern, 1100 Lawrence av. Police said he poured stolen whisky from half pint bottles in 875 cases into other bottles and resold the whisky.

He faces a new trial on that charge. Covelli also is accused of posing as an FBI agent in Pittsburgh. He currently is in a Houston jail, charged with two Chicago lawyers of receiving and concealing stolen cars in an international ring.

Covelli, who has been im-



**GERALD COVELLI**  
Eleven to one.

prisoned for auto theft, burglary, and robbery, was an associate of Paul (Needle-nose) Labriola and James Weinberg, hoodlums whose bodies were found stuffed in an auto trunk.

#### PROBE ORDERED

Police Commissioner Timothy J. O'Connor suspended Saporito and ordered a civil service investigation.

Five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine is the maximum fine for accepting a bribe as a juror. Fifteen years in jail and a \$15,000 fine is the maximum penalty for bribing a juror.

U. S. Atty. Robert Ticken said:

"There is nothing more insidious than jury tampering. There is nothing I consider worse."

# Cop, Brother Face Jury 'Fix' Charge FBI Seizes Pair In Bribe Case

*Lone Vote Blocked Verdict  
In Hood's Stolen Liquor Trial*

A commercial artist was to be arraigned with his policeman brother Friday on charges that he took a \$250 bribe from him to "fix" a federal jury trial.

Robert N. Saporito, 27, told the FBI that his brother, Patrolman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, had offered him \$500 for his juror's vote, but only paid off half.



MICHAEL SAPORITO ROBERT SAPORITO

GERALD Covelli, 37, a hoodlum with a record dating back to 1940, was freed Jan. 21 at his trial on charges of possessing stolen liquor when the jury failed to reach a verdict.



Robert, the lone holdout for acquittal, said in his admission that his brother told him Covelli had paid the policeman \$500 cash for the bribe.

GERALD COVELLI

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CG 15-12848  
BU 15-38700

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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Date JUL 17 1959  
Chicago, Illinois  
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Editor EVERETT NORLANDER  
**CHICAGO OFFICE**

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charge of the FBI here, would not say how the FBI cracked the case.

COVELLI is being held by federal authorities in Houston, Texas, where he was arrested in March as part of a five-man Chicago-based gang accused of shipping stolen Cadillacs to Guatemala.

Covelli had been charged with possessing 27 cases of liquor from a lot of 875 cases stolen Dec. 30, 1957, when a liquor truck was hijacked from the Indianapolis Forwarding Co., 2500 W. Taylor.

Michael, of 3737 Huron, and Robert, of 7301 W. Armistage, Elmwood Park, were arrested Thursday. The FBI said that while Robert admitted his part in the affair, Michael refused to answer questions.

Commissioner O'Connor immediately suspended Michael. He was assigned to Cragin station.

Both brothers were held at the detective bureau.

ROBERT was held in lieu of \$10,000 bond on charges of accepting a bribe to prevent a federal jury from reaching a verdict. This is punishable by up to two years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

Michael, whose bond has not been set, was charged with offering a bribe, punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a \$15,000 fine.

Robert Auerbach, agent in

# COP HELD IN JURY FIX CASE

## HIS BROTHER DEADLOCKS COVELLI TRIAL

**\$500 Payoff Told  
by FBI**

A city policeman and his brother, a commercial artist, were arrested Thursday by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on charges of fixing a federal court jury which failed to reach a verdict.



Covelli

Last January in the case of Gerald Covelli, 39, crime syndicate hoodlum and reputed killer.

They are Patrolman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., who has been on the force five years and is assigned to Cragin station, and Robert Nicholas Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, free lance artist.

### Member of Jury

Robert Saporito was a member of the federal District court jury which was unable to reach a verdict in Covelli's trial Jan. 19 for theft of whiskey in an interstate shipment.

The jury was 11 for a guilty verdict and one for not guilty. Robert Saporito was the lone holdout.

Richard D. Auerbach, Chicago FBI chief, said that his agents arrested Robert at his

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

~~3X~~ SPORTS FINAL Edition

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Part I

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

RE: GERALD COVELLI;

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY

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Michael (left) and Robert Saporito.

Elmwood Park home, and that he implicated his brother Michael.

#### Tells His Story

Auerbach said Robert told this story:

On the Sunday, Jan. 13, before the jury ceased deliberations, Michael Saporito went to his brother's home and gave Robert \$500 in cash, telling him that he had received the \$500 from Covelli to give to Robert, on the promise that he would hold out for a not guilty verdict and thus hang the jury.

The \$500 changed hands in Robert's home. When Robert returned to court the next morning and the jury began deliberations, he held out for acquittal.

Michael Saporito was seized at his home as he prepared to go on duty at the

#### International Trade Fair on Navy pier.

Robert Saporito was arraigned before United States Commissioner C. S. Bentley Pike on a charge of accepting a bribe, and held in County jail in \$10,000 bond for a hearing at 11 a. m. Friday. The maximum penalty is five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

Auerbach said that Michael Saporito will be charged with bribing a juror which carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a fine of up to \$15,000.

Michael Saporito was suspended late Thursday by Police Commissioner Timothy J. O'Connor. He will be taken before Pike Friday.

#### Covelli in Custody

Covelli is in federal custody in Houston, Tex., under \$25,000 bond, for interstate transportation of stolen cars as a member of a \$100,000 international ring. Indicted with Covelli were two Chicago lawyers, Seymour Kurtz, 29, of 6331 N. Albany av., and Harold Turner, 27, of 2649 Greenleaf av.

Covelli has been questioned in more than a dozen murders, including those of his former business partners in a licensed beverage association, Paul Labriola and James Weinberg, and in the murder of Estelle Carey, a Russian roulette dice game.

# Cop, Brother Facing Jury Tamper Charge

Two brothers, one a policeman, are to be arraigned today before United States Commissioner C. S. Bentley Pike on charges of tampering with a federal jury.

The two are Policeman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., and Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armistage av., Elmwood Park, a commercial artist.

They were arrested in their homes yesterday by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents. Michael Saporito, assigned to the Cragin district, has been on the force five years.

## CITE \$500 BRIBE

He is charged with offering a \$500 bribe and his brother with accepting it while he was a member of a federal jury.

Robert Saporito was the lone holdout against convicting Gerald C. Covelli, 39, an ex-convict, on a charge of possession of whisky stolen in interstate shipment.

Saporito's action resulted in a hung jury before Judge Joseph Sam Perry on Jan. 19.

Perry said the investigation began when he told Assistant United States Atty. Robert Monaghan that he

suspected something was wrong with the jury and that it involved Saporito.

## PROMOTION PROMISED?

Richard D. Auerbach, chief FBI agent here, said Robert Saporito told him he was given the money by his brother the day before jury deliberations began.

Auerbach said the policeman got the money from Covelli to influence his brother to vote not guilty and bring about a hung jury. Covelli also promised Saporito a promotion to police narcotic squad if his brother co-operated.

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Editor HARRY REUTLINGER

CHICAGO OFFICE

RE: GERALD COVELLI (INV);

TFIS; OJ; BRIBERY

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#### PROBE ORDERED

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Policeman arrested.



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Bribe charged.



**GERALD COVELLI**  
Eleven to one.

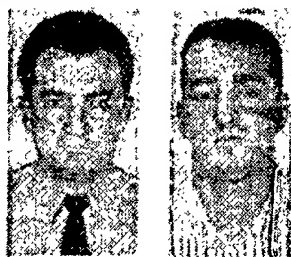
# Cop, Brother Face Jury 'Fix' Charge

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### Lone Vote Blocked Verdict In Hood's Stolen Liquor Trial

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GERALD COVELLI

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*Red Streak* Edition

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Editor EVERETT NORLANDER

CHICAGO OFFICE

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Robert Auerbach, agent in

# Seize Policeman, Brother On U.S. Jury Fix Charge

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Date JUL 17 1959
Chicago, Illinc
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Editor EMMETT DE
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RE: GERALD COVELLI;  
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145 JUL 24 1959



A Chicago policeman and his brother were arrested Thursday on charges of federal jury tampering. Seized by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents

B. APPROX. 1932

B. APPROX. 1932

were Patrolman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 W. Huron, assigned to Cragin station, 4905 W. Grand, and Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 W. Armitage, Elmwood Park, a commercial artist.

The free-lance artist was charged with accepting a bribe from his brother while serving on a U.S. District Court jury.

The younger Saporito was identified by Asst. U.S. Atty. John Grady as the lone hold-out against conviction of Gerald Covelli, 37, a notorious ex-convict and hoodlum, on charges of possession of whisky stolen in interstate commerce.

Judge Joseph Sam Perry dismissed the jury when it reported itself deadlocked 11 to 1 for conviction.

The judge told The Sun-Times Thursday: "I had an idea of what had happened. I was



MICHAEL A. Saporito Jr.

ROBERT N. Saporito

GERALD Covelli

very suspicious of the situation.

"I told the assistant U.S. attorney [Robert Monaghan] who handled the case that there was something wrong. He went to work on it."

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#### New Trial Coming

Covelli, formerly of 7373 Keystone, Lincolnwood, faces a new trial here on the whisky charge. No date has been set for the new trial.

Covelli is a onetime associate of Paul (Needlenose) Labriola and James Weinberg, whose bodies were found in an auto trunk. Covelli has a police record dating to 1937.

His convictions and prison sentences were for auto theft, burglary, robbery and strong-arm robbery. A charge of assault with intent to commit murder—against one of his gang associates in a hijacking case years ago—was dropped to press the robbery charge.

Covelli has been picked for questioning in numerous murder cases, including those of his former associates, Labriola and Weinberg.

Years ago, Covelli had managed the Primrose Path tavern at 1159 N. Clark, a front for syndicate hoodlum operations and hangout of mobsters. Grady said Thursday that Covelli, at the time of his trial last January, was manager and part-owner of the Silver Dome tavern, 1100 W. Lawrence.

#### Charges Listed

Covelli was accused of caching whisky from a theft of 875 cases of half-pint bottles containing the liquor. It was charged that Covelli transferred the whisky to other bottles and sold it.

Covelli was released on \$10,000 bond after the mistrial. He is now awaiting trial in Houston on charges of receiving and concealing stolen cars

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Police Comr. Timothy J. O'Connor suspended Patrolman Saporito as soon as he learned of the federal arrest. The policeman was seized at his home as he prepared to leave for duty at the Chicago International Trade Fair.

Robert Saporito was arraigned Thursday before U.S. Comr. C. S. Bentley Pike. His bond was set at \$10,000 and the arraignment continued until 11 a.m. Friday when his brother also will be arraigned.

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Auerbach said the charge to

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U.S. Atty. Robert Ticken declared: "There is nothing more insidious than jury tampering. There is nothing I consider worse."

Judge Perry called such tampering "vicious."

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1959

76 Pages, 2 Sections—7 C

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# Seize Policeman, Brother On U.S. Jury Fix Charge

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A Chicago policeman and his brother were arrested Thursday on charges of federal jury tampering.

Seized by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents were Patrolman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 W. Huron, assigned to Cragin station, 4905 W. Grand, and Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 W. Armitage, Elmwood Park, a commercial artist.

The free-lance artist was charged with accepting a bribe from his brother while serving on a U.S. District Court jury.

The younger Saporito was identified by Asst. U.S. Atty. John Grady as the lone hold-out against conviction of Gerald Covelli, 37, a notorious ex-convict and hoodlum, on charges of possession of whisky stolen in interstate commerce.

Judge Joseph Sam Perry dismissed the jury when it reported itself deadlocked 11 to 1 for conviction.

The judge told The Sun-Times Thursday, "I had an idea



MICHAEL A.  
SAPORITO JR.

ROBERT N.  
SAPORITO

GERALD  
COVELLI

of what had happened. I was very suspicious of the situation.

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# Seize Cop, Brother; Charge Jury Fixing

Continued from Page 1

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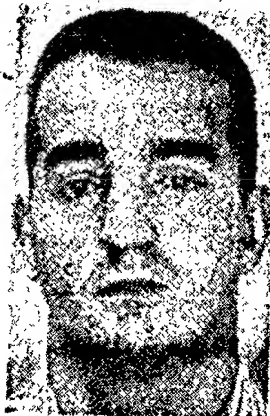
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**MICHAEL SAPORITO JR.**  
Policeman arrested.

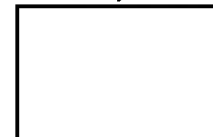


**ROBERT SAPORITO**  
Bribe charged.



**GERALD COVELLI**  
Eleven to one.

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*"Gerald Covelli"*  
*et al TFIS - OJ -*  
*Bribery*

*Bufile 15-38700*

# Cop, Brother Facing Jury Tamper Charge

Two brothers, one a policeman, are to be arraigned today before United States Commissioner C. S. Bentley Pike on charges of tampering with a federal jury.

The two are Policeman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., and Robert N. Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, a commercial artist.

They were arrested in their homes yesterday by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents. Michael Saporito, assigned to the Cragin district, has been on the force five years.

## CITE \$300 BRIBE

He is charged with offering a \$300 bribe and his brother with accepting it while he was a member of a federal jury.

Robert Saporito was the lone holdout against convicting Gerald C. Covelli, 39, an ex-convict, on a charge of possession of whiskey stolen in interstate shipment.

Saporito's action resulted in a hung jury before Judge Joseph Sam Perry on Jan. 19.

Perry said the investigation began when he told Assistant United States Atty. Robert Monaghan that he

suspected something was wrong with the jury and that it involved Saporito.

## PROMOTION PROMISED?

Richard D. Auerbach, chief FBI agent here, said Robert Saporito told him he was given the money by his brother the day before jury deliberations began.

Auerbach said the policeman got the money from Covelli to influence his brother to vote not guilty and bring about a hung jury. Covelli also promised Saporito a promotion to police narcotic squad if his brother co-operated.

Covelli at the time of the trial was part owner of the Silver Dome tavern, 1100 Lawrence av. Police said he poured stolen whiskey from half pint bottles in 875 cases into other bottles and resold the whiskey.

He faces a new trial on that charge. Covelli also is accused of posing as an FBI agent in Pittsburgh. He currently is

in a Houston jail, charged with two Chicago lawyers of receiving and concealing stolen cars in an international ring.

Covelli, who has been imprisoned for auto theft, burglary, and robbery, was an associate of Paul (Needle-nose) Labriola and James Weinberg, hoodlums whose bodies were found stuffed in an auto trunk.

## PROBE ORDERED

Police Commissioner Timothy J. O'Connor suspended Saporito and ordered a civil service investigation.

Five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine is the maximum for accepting a bribe as a juror. Fifteen years in jail and a \$15,000 fine is the maximum penalty for bribing a juror.

U. S. Atty. Robert Tieken said:

"There is nothing more insidious than jury tampering. There is nothing consider worse."

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149 JUL 23 1959

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
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*Chicago American*  
*7/17/59*

JUL 23 1959

# COP HELD

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# IN JURY FIX

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File - *JFK*  
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 Gerald Cavelli, et al -  
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 The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

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 7/17/59



# HIS BROTHER DEADLOCKS COVELLI TRIAL

## \$500 Payoff Told by FBI

A city policeman and his brother, a commercial artist, were arrested Thursday by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on charges of fixing a federal court jury which failed to reach a verdict last January in the case of Gerald Covelli, 39, crime syndicate hoodlum and reputed killer.

They are Patrolman Michael Saporito Jr., 31, of 3737 Huron st., who has been on the force five years and is assigned to Cragin station, and Robert Nicholas Saporito, 27, of 7301 Armitage av., Elmwood Park, free lance artist.



Covelli

The \$500 changed hands in Robert's home. When Robert returned to court the next morning and the jury began deliberations, he held out for acquittal.

Michael Saporito was seized at his home as he prepared to go on duty at the

(Continued on page 8, col. 4)

### Member of Jury

Robert Saporito was a member of the federal District court jury which was unable to reach a verdict in Covelli's trial Jan. 19 for theft of whiskey in an interstate shipment.

The jury was 11 for a guilty verdict and one for not guilty. Robert Saporito was the lone holdout.

Richard D. Auerbach, Chicago FBI chief, said that his agents arrested Robert at his



Michael (left) and Robert Saporito.

Elmwood Park home, and that he implicated his brother a Michael.

### Tells His Story

Auerbach said Robert told this story:

On the Sunday, Jan. 18, at before the jury ceased deliberations, Michael Saporito went to his brother's home and gave Robert \$500 in cash, telling him that he had received the \$500 from Covelli to give to Robert; on the promise that he would hold out for a not guilty verdict and thus hang the jury.

The \$500 changed hands in Robert's home. When Robert returned to court the next morning and the jury began deliberations, he held out for acquittal.

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## FBI NABS COP, BROTHER FOR FIXING TRIAL

### Tell \$500 Payoff in Covelli Case

(Continued from first page)

International Trade Fair on Navy pier.

Robert Saporito was arraigned before United States Commissioner C. S. Bentley Pike on a charge of accepting a bribe, and held in County jail in \$10,000 bond for a hearing at 11 a. m. Friday. The maximum penalty is five years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

Auerbach said that Michael Saporito will be charged with bribing a juror which carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a fine of up to \$15,000.

Michael Saporito was suspended late Thursday by Police Commissioner Timothy J. O'Connor. He will be taken before Pike Friday.

### Covelli In Custody

Covelli is in federal custody in Houston, Tex., under \$25,000 bond, for interstate transportation of stolen cars as a member of a \$100,000 international ring. Indicted with Covelli were two Chicago lawyers, Seymour Kuritz, 29, of 6331 N. Albany av., and Harold Turner, 27, of 2649 Greenleaf av.

Covelli has been questioned in more than a dozen murders, including those of his former business partners in a licensed beverage association, Paul Labriola and James Weinberg, and in the murder of Estelle Carey, a Rush street dice girl.

SHIP MOVEMENTS

Tolson  
Belmont  
DeLoach  
McGuire  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

Houston Post  
New York Herald  
Washington Daily  
Evening Star  
Chicago Herald Trib  
Chicago Journal-Am  
Chicago Mirror  
Chicago Daily News  
Chicago Post  
New York Times  
Chicago Leader  
Chicago Street Journal

## Saloonkeepers to Court Over Hijacked Whiskey

Two saloonkeepers, found with stolen whisky on the premises, were arraigned in federal court today.

David Falzone, 40, was said to have had 26 cases of ques-

\$15,000 was taken from a truck parked at Indianapolis Forwarding Co. docks, 2500 W. Taylor st.

U. S. Commissioner Pike continued the hearing till Apr. 5.



Louise Brells

David Falzone

tionable liquor in Cafe Continental, 44 E. Walton pl.

Mrs. Louise Brells, 25, was charged with having a case and a half of questionable stuff in the Flame Tavern, 2828 Broadway.

Richard D. Auerbach, FBI agent in charge, identified the whisky as part of a shipment of 1,000 cases hijacked New Year's Eve, Auerbach said.

A shipment valued at

CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Date MAR 18 1958

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